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Japan

No Agreement Reached in U.S. Trade Talks

OW2601021394 Tokyo KYODO in English 0144 GMT 26 Jan 94

[By Antonio Kamiya]

[Text] Washington, Jan. 25 KYODO—Japan and the United States ended two days of high-level talks Tuesday without agreement on how to craft a trade accord that is critical to the upcoming February 11 summit between Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and President Bill Clinton.

"Our discussions with our Japanese counterparts yesterday and today did not produce agreement," a somber-faced senior U.S. official told reporters after the talks. The official, who did not want to be identified, said any agreement with Tokyo must contain provisions "of substantial opening of the Japanese market along with objective criteria to assess progress toward that goal."

Japanese and U.S. officials are supposed to draw up a progress report on the framework trade negotiations by the time Hosokawa and Clinton meet February 11 in Washington.

U.S. officials reiterated that "objective criteria" are essential for defining a new framework of trade relations with Japan, which runs a 50 billion dollar trade surplus with the United States. "If there are no objective criteria, there is no agreement," a senior U.S. official said.

Members of the Japanese negotiating team, headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Koichiro Matsuura, acknowledged that the U.S. insistence on quantifying the openness of the Japanese markets reflects a "lack of trust" between the two trading partners.

Sozaburo Okamatsu, vice trade minister for international affairs and a key member of the Japanese negotiating team, said he feels the U.S. negotiators "understand Japanese reasoning" for opposing import targets but still want to use indicators to quantify the openness of Japan's markets.

U.S. officials contend that past agreements by Tokyo to lower trade barriers have failed to produce the desired results. The U.S. wants Japan to accept the import levels of other industrialized countries as benchmarks to prove that its markets are truly open to foreign goods.

Japanese officials say Japan will oppose the use of any indicators, arguing that governments in market economies have no power to dictate the level of imports for specific industries.

Speaking at a news conference Tuesday, Japan's Ambassador to the U.S. Takakazu Kuriyama called the U.S. expectations of predetermined market shares "unrealistic" in market economies.

"The United States should understand that putting up a certain quantitative goal and trying to achieve it isn't something that can happen in the real business world," he said.

Kuriyama, who is due to fly back to Tokyo Sunday for consultations ahead of the Clinton-Hosokawa summit, urged Washington not to "lose sight" of the principal purpose of the framework agreement—how to make the Japanese market more open to foreign goods and services.

The framework accord, concluded last July, calls for a "highly significant decrease" in Japan's current account surplus and promised "tangible progress" in the access and sales of foreign goods in the Japanese market.

The two governments designated the Japanese automobile market, insurance, and Japanese Government procurement in telecommunications and medical equipment as priority areas that must be settled by the February 11 summit meeting.

U.S. officials said the two sides have reached a "complete impasse" on negotiations involving the auto industry sector and described progress on Japanese Government procurement and the insurance market as "marginal."

Japanese and U.S. officials are scheduled to hold more working-level talks this week in Washington, but there is no agreement yet on a further round of senior-level talks prior to the summit meeting.

U.S. officials said the Japanese side has proposed another round of high-level talks in Tokyo but the U.S. Government will have further consultations before deciding on the next move. "We intend to do all that we can between now and February 11 in anticipation of a successful summit," a senior U.S. official said.

But the official added, "in our view, we would prefer not to have agreements than to have bad and cosmetic ones."

Division on 'Objective Criteria'

OW2601004994 Tokyo KYODO in English 2321 GMT 25 Jan 94

[By Antonio Kamiya]

[Excerpts] Washington, Jan. 25 KYODO—Japan and the United States Tuesday [25 January] wound up three days of high-level talks on the so-called "framework" trade accord but apparently made little headway on the critical issue of how to measure progress of foreign access to Japanese markets.

Japanese officials who took part in the day's meeting said the Japanese side has proposed another round of meetings early next month in Tokyo.

U.S. officials declined to make any comments as they emerged from a two-hour session held at the White House conference center.

U.S. and Japanese officials have scheduled separate briefings on the framework trade talks at 6 P.M. (8 A.M. Wednesday Japan time).

The two sides are supposed to draw up a progress report by the time Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa meets with President Bill Clinton on February 11 in Washington.

But both U.S. and Japanese officials have admitted they are still divided on how to interpret the meaning of "objective criteria," the most contentious provision incorporated in the framework accord which the two countries concluded last July. "There is no movement at all from the Japanese side," said Marcus Noland, a senior economist at the White House Council of Economic Advisers and a member of the U.S. negotiating team.

While saying there are problems "in all areas" of trade issues identified in the framework agreement, Noland singled out Japan's macroeconomic policy and access to the Japanese auto market as the "most difficult" confronting U.S. negotiators.

Members of the Japanese negotiating team, headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Koichiro Matsuura, "are just repeating over and over" their positions, Noland said. [passage omitted]

Japanese officials say Japan will oppose the use of any indicators, arguing that governments in market economies have no power to dictate the level of imports for specific industries.

Speaking at a news conference Tuesday, Japan's Ambassador to the U.S. Takakazu Kuriyama called the U.S. expectations of predetermined market shares "unrealistic" in market economies. "The United States should understand that putting up a certain quantitative goal and trying to achieve it—isn't something that can happen in the real business world," he said.

Kuriyama, who is due to fly back to Tokyo this Sunday for consultations ahead of the Clinton-Hosokawa summit, urged Washington not to "lose sight" of the principal purpose of the framework agreement, how to make the Japanese market more open to foreign goods and services.

Government Increases Offer in Air Base Dispute

OW2601143594 Tokyo KYODO in English 1400 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 26 KYODO—The government proposed Wednesday raising to 330 million yen the amount of compensation to residents who have sued over high noise levels at U.S. Yokota Air Base in on the outskirts of Tokyo.

The proposal, submitted in writing to the Tokyo high court by officials of the Defense Facilities Administration Agency, is 50 million yen more than the government's original proposal.

The figure is still some 300 million yen short of the amount of compensation suggested by the Tokyo high court in a compromise proposal, however.

Restrictions on night flights sought by the residents were also not a part of the compromise agreement but were incorporated into a nonbinding preamble to the proposal.

Hundreds of residents living near the Yokota base filed the joint action suit against the government demanding compensation and a ban on night flights.

In March 1989, the Hachioji Branch of the Tokyo District Court rejected the residents' demands for a ban on night flights and compensation for future disturbances. But it ordered the government to pay 330 million yen in compensation for past victimization.

Both sides then appealed the ruling, but have been in negotiations since June following a Supreme Court decision in February 1993 rejecting a ban on night flights and compensation for future noise disturbances in two earlier noise pollution suits.

In November, the Tokyo high court sought a compromise by proposing an end to the night flights "in principle."

Japan and the U.S. have agreed that flights and ground activities at the base between 10 P.M. and 6 A.M. should be restricted to those that are essential to the U.S. military's operations.

Russian Aerospace Official Seeks Cooperation

OW2601105394 Tokyo KYODO in English 1018 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 26 KYODO—A top Russian aerospace official appealed Wednesday for bilateral cooperation with Japan in the aerospace sector.

Edward S. Neymark [spelling of name as received], chief of the aircraft industry department at the Russian Federation State Committee for Defense Industries, said such cooperation would benefit both countries.

The Russian aerospace industry is faced with an urgent need to convert to commercial use due to military spending cuts.

Neymark was speaking at a press conference in a Tokyo hotel after meeting officials in charge of aircraft manufacturing at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

Neymark said he told MITI officials that Russia is ready to cooperate with Japan in any aerospace field ranging from electronic parts to joint development of a 600-seat passenger airliner.

The Russian official is visiting Japan following a memorandum signed last May between the Japanese and Russian aerospace industries to promote bilateral relations and personnel exchanges.

Tokyo, Moscow Agree To Open New Air Routes

OW2601132494 Tokyo KYODO in English 1235 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 26 KYODO—Japan and Russia ended three days of aviation talks Wednesday with an agreement to open two new routes between the two countries, the Transport Ministry said.

The accord allows each nation's airlines to operate flights between the northern Japanese city of Aomori and the Russian Far East city of Khabarovsk and between the central Japanese city of Toyama and the Russian Far East city of Vladivostok, ministry officials said.

Under the agreement, Russia's Aeroflot Airline plans to run two weekly flights on both routes as soon as related customs, immigration and quarantine facilities are set up at the Japanese airports, they said.

The first flight between Aomori and Khabarovsk is expected as early as fiscal 1996 and that between Toyama and Vladivostok is expected in fiscal 1994, they said.

No Japanese airlines reportedly plan to serve the two routes at the moment.

The agreement also calls for raising the number of weekly flights between Niigata and Vladivostok to three from the current two starting in fiscal 1994, the officials said.

The two countries also agreed to hold a meeting in Tokyo of Russian and Japanese aviation controllers to improve related technical skills.

During the talks, Russian officials assured Japan that the current restriction on trans-Siberian flights will be lifted as early as March, the officials said.

Because of a lack of necessary aviation control equipment, Russia has limited the number of trans-Siberian flights to six per hour.

Chinese-Speaking Men Fire Warning Shot at Ship

OW2601013494 Tokyo KYODO in English 0046 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Naha, Jan. 26 KYODO—A warning shot was fired Tuesday [25 January] night at a Panamanian-registered ship in the East China Sea as 15 Chinese-speaking men with weapons boarded and inspected the vessel, the Maritime Safety Agency [MSA] said Wednesday.

The MSA said the incident took place about 60 kilometers northwest of Okinawa Prefecture's Iheya-Jima Island.

The 926-ton Nanshin Maru, a freezer cargo vessel, was boarded by the 15 men from another ship, MSA officials said.

One of the men said in Chinese that they were checking the ship as part of measures to keep tabs on unlawful trade between China and Taiwan, the officials said.

The man also told a Japanese crew member and others of the Nanshin Maru that he was sorry for the trouble the surprise check had caused, they said.

Japanese maritime authorities said that between March 1992 and December 1993 they logged 75 cases of warning shots, quarantine inspections and tailings in the East China Sea. China has acknowledged that its patrol ships were involved in three cases.

Japanese officials said Japan will check the latest episode with the Chinese Government.

Refugee Repatriation Flights Leave for Hanoi

OW2101145694 Tokyo KYODO in English 1206 GMT 21 Jan 94

[Text] Nagasaki, Jan. 21 Kyodo—Two chartered Vietnam Airlines flights carrying 262 Vietnamese refugees departed Friday [21 January] from Nagasaki for Hanoi as part of the voluntary repatriation plan of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR].

One of the flights departed Friday morning but did not receive permission from the Chinese Government to land in Shanghai en route and was forced to return to Nagasaki.

The flight's routing was changed to go via Taipei and both flights departed around 7 P.M.

A total of 263 Vietnamese refugees had been scheduled to be repatriated, but one withdrew a request to return to Hanoi prior to Friday's departure.

The refugees had arrived in Japan by boat between November 1989 and October 1993 and were being held in the detention center and a temporary reception center in Omura, Nagasaki Prefecture.

The Geneva-based UNHCR returned about 200 Vietnamese from Japan to their home country under a voluntary repatriation scheme last year.

Cambodian Official: Hiroshima Must Never Recur

OW2201000794 Tokyo KYODO in English 2311 GMT 21 Jan 94

[Text] Hiroshima, Jan. 22 KYODO—A senior Cambodian Foreign Ministry official, touring Hiroshima's atomic bomb memorials, says the tragedies of the past suffered by the city and his own nation must not happen again.

Sieng Kimhoun [spelling of name as received], director of the Ministry's Asia Bureau, also visited facilities being readied for October's Asian Games and said he hoped to return to Japan during the games.

"I cannot find the words to adequately express how I feel with regard to the pain and misery suffered by Hiroshima," said Sieng.

"We and the people of Hiroshima have a saying in common that this must never happen again," said Sieng, referring to the 1945 atomic bombing of Hiroshima and the Pol Pot reign of terror in Cambodia during which an estimated two million people were killed and Sieng himself was forced to labor for four years.

Visiting most of the sites for the October 2-16 Asian Games, Sieng said he hoped they would contribute to world peace.

Cambodia plans to send its first delegation in 16 years to Asia's quadrennial multisport event.

More Reports on Reform Bill Rejection Aftermath

Kaifu Interviewed 22 Jan

OW2601053694

[Editorial Report] Tokyo FNN Television Network in Japanese at 2332 GMT on 22 January, in its regularly scheduled "News 2001" program, carries a live interview with former Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

The program begins with a brief introduction of Kaifu as the man who holds the key to whether the LDP stays together or further breaks up with tension expected to mount between LDP groups having differing views on the political reform bills as a result of the rejection of the bills in the upper house of the Diet on 21 January. The program also seeks to have Kaifu explain what he has in mind to have the bills enacted during the current Diet session.

Asked what he feels was the greatest cause of the defeat of the political reform bills in the upper house, Kaifu says although ruling coalition parties and the opposition LDP held last minute talks to reach a compromise, they failed. He stresses: "They should have tried to move just one step closer to arriving at a compromise."

Regarding the reemergence of arguments that the political reform bills be treated separately and that bills on preventing political corruption be taken up first, Kaifu points out that past efforts at preventing political corruption have been unsuccessful. He says that the LDP worked out its political reform outline during his term as prime minister. Bringing out papers on which the outline has been laid out, he explains that the current election system is at the root of political corruption. He says a problem can only be solved by attacking it at its roots, not just at its limbs, citing a college professor under whom he once studied. He thus asserts the political reform bills should be taken up as a single package.

Kaifu then points out that since the parties which formerly opposed the LDP political reform outline are now agreeing to bills which basically agree in principle with this outline, the LDP should also try to move toward a compromise. He feels the ruling coalition parties and the LDP should work out a compromise and that he believes this can be done. He further points out that since the leaders of Sakigake (Harbinger) and Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party) worked together with him in drafting the political reform outline, they should be well aware of the principles involved, and, therefore, things can be settled by holding a thorough discussion at a joint meeting of both houses of the Diet.

Asked how he would act in case the political reform bills were put to the vote again in the lower house, Kaifu says this is undesirable and unlikely since there is the option of working out a solution at a joint meeting of both houses.

Freelance commentator Kenichi Takemura says ruling coalition party officials should refrain from suggesting that the coalition is willing to accept the LDP-proposed bills "in whole" (marunomi) so that political reform bills can be enacted during the current Diet session. He warns they should be wary of using delicate terms which could decisively determine the fate of the political reform bills, pointing out the use of the term "marunomi" could anger many coalition members since it would offend their pride to accept the opposition's proposals.

At 2341 GMT, Hirotaka Akamatsu, secretary general of the Social Democratic Party of Japan (SDPJ), is called up via remote hookup to comment on what has been said so far in Kaifu's interview. He says it is the responsibility of all politicians to have political reform brought about during the current Diet session, and, therefore, a compromise should be worked out at a joint meeting of both houses where representatives of the various parties will be present.

Asked to say a few words to Kaifu, Akamatsu points out that comments LDP Secretary General Yoshiro Mori made earlier in the program indicate that the LDP leadership wants to put off the political reform bills rather than work out a compromise at a joint meeting of both houses. He asks that Kaifu exercise his leadership to bring together pro-reformist LDP members for a joint cooperation toward bringing about political reform during the current Diet session. Akamatsu vows that he and his associates would do their best.

Kaifu is asked what he intends to do. He says immediately after the bills were rejected at the upper house, he and his associates held a discussion and decided to ask the LDP leadership to promptly take steps toward holding a joint meeting of both houses of the Diet to work out a compromise. He says this is necessary since Japan is in the midst of an economic slump and this matter also warrants immediate attention. He says as soon as a compromise is worked out on basic points, then the government can start working on other problems.

On reports that some LDP members plan to demand the resignation of the party leadership if it agrees to a joint meeting of both houses, Kaifu denounces such moves, saying that the party adopted its political reform outline in 1989 and has campaigned in subsequent elections with this outline as a party platform. He mentions that, at the time, he was the leader of a task force on political reform and current LDP President Yohei Kono was acting leader then. He says they both toured the country to explain the party's political reform outline. He says since this has been the party's platform, it is only proper that the party's leadership seek a compromise with the coalition that would bring the political reform bills as close to the party's proposals as possible. He says this can be accomplished by holding a joint meeting of both houses, and, therefore, it is improper to denounce the party leadership for agreeing to holding such a meeting.

Asked how he feels about some people calling for a top-level meeting between Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and LDP President Kono to resolve the situation, Kaifu stresses the problem should be solved by holding a joint meeting of both houses to work out a compromise.

Regarding rumors that some junior members of his group may leave the LDP should the situation fail to be resolved, Kaifu says the Federation of Dietmen for Political Reform members have resolved to concentrate all their efforts now on political reform, not more and not less.

The interview concludes with Kaifu stating his continued determination to help bring about political reform, calling for utmost efforts by all politicians toward this end.

Takemura Noncommittal on Hosokawa

OW2601040594 Tokyo KYODO in English 0344 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 26 KYODO—Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura said Wednesday [26 January] he can neither confirm nor deny whether Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa might resign if he fails to secure Diet approval for political reform. Asked about an adviser's comment on the possible resignation of the Cabinet depending on the result of Diet debate on reform, the top government spokesman said, "I neither confirm nor deny that."

Shusei Tanaka, a special adviser to Hosokawa, said Tuesday the premier may disband the cabinet and step down if he fails to get the measures put into law.

Four bills to reform the system for elections to the House of Representatives and curb corruption in public life were defeated in the House of Councillors last Friday. They had cleared the lower house last November.

Hosokawa has staked his political fate on enactment of such measures by a self-imposed deadline of Saturday, when the current Diet session ends. To meet public expectations, ruling and opposition parties must do their utmost to ignore even major differences and accomplish a common goal of political reform, Takemura told a news conference.

The ruling coalition and the opposition camp begin negotiations Wednesday afternoon to work out a compromise reform plan and get it onto the statute books before the close of the Diet term.

Earlier Wednesday, the premier brushed aside speculation that he and his cabinet might resign, saying he has no plans to take such a step.

Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata said Hosokawa should dissolve the lower house for a snap general election, rather than stepping down, if the political reform program fails to win parliamentary approval by Saturday. "I don't think the mass resignation of the cabinet is possible with such a high level of public support," he said.

Hata also ruled out the possibility of carrying the government reform proposals over to the next regular session of the Diet, which begins next Monday.

A government source said there is no consensus within the government about the resignation of the cabinet, adding that Tanaka was only expressing his personal views.

Hosokawa Denies Intention To Resign

OW2601043794 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0308 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Announcer-read report over video on Hosokawa's reaction to special aid Shusei Tanaka's 25 January remark; from "NHK News" program]

[Text] On the evening of 25 January, the prime minister's special aide, Shusei Tanaka, said Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa might resign if the Diet fails to enact the political reform bills. Commenting on this, Prime Minister Hosokawa told reporters this morning that he does not have any such intention.

On the issue, Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura said at a news conference today:

When the prime minister takes responsibility, clear actions are either to dissolve the lower house or to resign en masse. Of these, Mr. Tanaka probably thought the cabinet's resignation is more likely. I personally have no opinion on that.

Hosokawa: No Cabinet Resignation

OW2601080694 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0308 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Announcer-read report; from "NHK News" program]

[Text] Shusei Tanaka, special assistant to the prime minister, hinted last night at the possibility that if a package of political reform bills is not enacted in the Diet during its current session, the Hosokawa cabinet would resign en masse. Asked by reporters to comment on Mr. Tanaka's remark this morning at the prime minister's official residence, Prime Minister Hosokawa said there is no such possibility.

Commenting on Mr. Tanaka's remark at a news conference this morning, Chief Cabinet Secretary Takemura said: As the clearest way for the prime minister to take political responsibility, he could dissolve the House of Representatives, call general elections and announce the resignation of his cabinet en masse. Mr. Tanaka probably anticipated the resignation of the Hosokawa cabinet en masse. I do not want to make any comment on his remark either way.

Confusion Retards Budget Schedule

OW2601131394 Tokyo KYODO in English 1238 GMT 26 Jan 94

["News Focus" by Kohei Murayama]

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 26 KYODO—Japan's financial and monetary authorities are losing their direction, with political confusion retarding budgetary schedules and reviving credit-easing hopes at a time when prompt action is needed for the flagging economy.

With the coalition government failing last Friday [21 January] to pass its reform bills through the Diet's upper house, and with a Japan-U.S. summit in Washington only a couple of weeks away, financial authorities hope to draft a final plan for a third extra fiscal 1993 budget and the fiscal 1994 budget early next week before further political chaos sets in.

The Ministry of Finance (MOF) hopes the political situation "will change to allow various things as soon as possible," said Jiro Saito, vice finance minister and administrative head.

Six ministers responsible for economic affairs, including Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii, have agreed to focus on reviving the political reform bills, stressing that passage would be the best help for the economy.

Fujii said a timetable for the budget is "not yet decided," but stressed the government will do its utmost to form a new economic stimulus package "after the current extraordinary Diet session ends on Saturday."

Both Fujii and Saito said the government has not mentioned a specific date for the budgets. But now that some party leaders are hinting at a dissolution of the lower house and cabinet resignation, the budgets and fiscal measures could be in for further delay.

But even if the cabinet survives for a transitional period to launch them, uncertainties remain over the crucial issue of cutting income tax to help jack up the economy.

Under these circumstances, attention is shifting to non-political monetary authorities which have stayed on the sidelines since cutting the discount rate in September to an all-time low of 1.75 percent.

In his latest press remarks Wednesday, Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno said he is "concerned" about the political turmoil, but added it is too early to judge the economic effects of a "still fluid" situation. He said the economy "remains stagnant with no clear signs for recovery," while stressing he would continue to "carefully watch" the effects of past measures and political developments.

There is perhaps some optimism, however, beginning to spread among monetary authorities as Mieno said his branch managers reported at a meeting this week that corporate sentiment has "calmed down somewhat" though [it] is still weak.

Branch managers attributed the improving sentiment to a recent rally in stock prices, the halt in the yen's appreciation, and a positive restructuring stance. But all these are apparently based on expectations of imminent fiscal measures, and hopes for an immediate rate cut were rekindled on Monday when stock prices took their steepest dive in two years of over 900 points in the key Nikkei index of 225 selected issues.

The stock market remained stable after recovering slightly on Tuesday, and the currency market was not much affected by the political turmoil.

Along with concerns over the impact of delayed fiscal measures, market attention is now fixed on Japan-U.S. relations ahead of the February 11 summit. Fujii stressed the "importance" for Japan to explain its political and economic policies at the summit "in the sense of Japan-U.S. friendship."

Indeed, the government wants to see some tangible results at the summit, as Hosokawa and Fujii vowed to do their best in both economic measures and the ongoing "framework" trade talks when they met separately on

Sunday with U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen. Fujii said that he told Bentsen to "trust us" and leave "the details" of the measures to Japan.

Bentsen said in press remarks after the meetings he had asked for measures to include an effective income tax cut, and stressed the United States would have to "reexamine" the bilateral trade talks if a reasonable agreement is not reached at the summit.

In Washington where subcabinet-level negotiations are now under way, U.S. Commerce secretary Ron Brown hinted at economic sanctions. That would mean a new round of sharp appreciation for the yen and a stock-price plunge, and the worst scenario for financial and monetary authorities would be that they could not prevent a further economic setback amid the continuing political confusion.

Nikkeiren Chief Urges Compromise

OW2601062894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0555 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 26 KYODO—A top business leader on Wednesday [26 January] called for early compromise on a political reform package so that the government can get down to the task of rebuilding Japan's economy.

Both the ruling coalition parties and the opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) should have been "more sensible" in discussions that led to last Friday's rejection by the House of the Councillors of the four political reform bills, said Takeshi Nagano, president of the Japan Federation of Employers Associations (Nikkeiren).

If both parties fail to reach compromise by the end of the current Diet session Saturday and the bills are scrapped, Japan's international standing would be eroded substantially, Nagano told a lecture meeting sponsored by KYODO NEWS SERVICE.

The bills' scrapping is likely to spawn a sense of disappointment in industrial sectors across the nation, possibly putting added downward pressure on stock prices, a major gauge of the health of the Japanese economy, Nagano said.

He said he hopes "from the bottom of my heart" that the political reform package will pass the Diet through an early compromise at a joint committee of both chambers of the Diet.

The stalled discussion on political reforms has prevented the government from formulating a new economic stimulus package, a third supplementary budget for fiscal 1993 to finance the package, and the main budget for fiscal 1994.

Turning to the coming spring wage negotiations with labor unions, Nagano reiterated the Nikkeiren policy decided earlier that it is virtually impossible for the management side to agree to a wage hike for workers. In view of the unabated worsening of economic conditions, allowing a wage hike "easily" would endanger the maintenance of employment, so businesses should give their top priority to securing employment rather than hiking wages, he said.

The employment situation is deteriorating day by day, with the number of idled workers standing at an estimated one million to three million across the nation, he said. The actual jobless ratio may have reached 5 to 6 percent, a level seen in the United States and Europe, Nagano said.

It is "impossible" for management to agree to a 5 to 6 percent wage increase for fiscal 1994, which was recently proposed by the Japanese Trade Union Confederation (Rengo). He said nominal wage levels for Japanese workers are the highest in the world and they should give up a hike during the era of the economic slump.

In the United States, business performance is picking up due to drastic restructuring measures centering on a cut in personnel costs, he said, noting that U.S. real wage levels have dropped to those seen before 1960, after reaching a peak in 1972. He said the government should focus on deregulating controls as a means to reduce Japan's consumer prices, also the highest in the world. Such a step would enhance the standard of living of the Japanese people, he said.

Nagano proposed anew that the government carry out an income tax cut of 10 trillion yen "as soon as possible" as a way to turn around the economy.

Raising the consumption tax to cover an income tax cut is not desirable in light of the current economic situation but if it is unavoidable, such a hike should be delayed to "substantially later," he said.

Ruling Parties Decide on Compromise Offer

OW2601071894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0649 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 26 KYODO—The ruling coalition parties decided Wednesday to offer a compromise on the government's reform bills to the opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) at a joint council of both Diet houses later in the day, coalition sources said. On electoral reform, the compromise would allow 300 seats in the House of Representatives to be elected from single-seat constituencies and the remaining 200 seats through the proportional representation system, according to the sources.

A political reform package submitted by the LDP and killed in the House of Representatives last November called for the lower house to have 300 seats from single-seat constituencies and 171 elected through proportional representation.

The government-sponsored reform bills rejected by the House of Councillors last week called for 274 seats from single-seat constituencies and 226 through proportional representation.

Also, under the coalition's compromise plan, the proportional representation system will be based on 11 electoral divisions covering the whole country, the sources said.

The proportional representation system in the LDP package was based on the existing 47 prefectures and that proposed in the government-sponsored bills was based on a single national electoral district.

Concerning political fund-raising, the ruling parties' compromise plan allows some donations from companies and organizations to individual politicians, which was banned in the government package, the sources said.

The Social Democratic Party (SDP) [SDPJ], the largest party in the ruling coalition, was reluctant to agree to the loosening of the restriction on donations, they said.

The ruling parties proposed to the LDP to hold the joint council of both houses in a last-ditch effort to enact the bills by Saturday [29 January], when the Diet closes.

If two-thirds of the 20-member joint panel agree on a compromise plan, the amended version would then be sent to plenary sessions of both houses of the Diet for a vote. The bills would become law if passed by a majority vote of both the houses.

Coalition, LDP Fail To Agree on Compromise

OW2601124994 Tokyo KYODO in English 1229 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 26 KYODO—The ruling coalition and opposition on Wednesday [26 January] failed to initiate any substantial talks on how to salvage the government-proposed political reform package at a meeting of the joint committee of both houses of the Diet, legislators said.

The panel, comprising 10 legislators each from the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors, held its first meeting after the lower house decided to set up the committee at a plenary session earlier in the day.

The last-ditch attempt to work out a compromise came after the upper chamber voted down the Hosokawa administration's reform package last Friday. A total of 20 Social Democratic Party dissidents helped the opposition reject the package.

The meeting ended after only 10 minutes, having elected Takushi Hirai, chief of Liberal Democratic Party upper house member, as chairman of the panel. It agreed to meet again Thursday afternoon.

If two-thirds of the 20-member joint panel agree on a compromise plan, the amended version would then be sent to plenary sessions of both houses of the Diet for a vote. The bills would become law if passed by a majority vote of both houses.

Meanwhile, the ruling coalition agreed to propose a compromise plan which increases the number of seats allocated for single-seat constituencies to 280 from the government-proposed 274 seats, reducing the number of seats for proportional representation from 226 to 220, coalition sources said.

The compromise plan would also allow legislators of prefectural and town assemblies to accept corporate donations. The government package prohibits individual politicians from receiving political donations from corporations, allowing only political parties to receive such donations.

Earlier in the day, the coalition worked out a different compromise version by which 300 single-seat districts would be created, while the remaining 200 proportional representation seats would be appropriated, they said.

That version, compiled at a meeting of the leaders of seven coalition partners, also called for allowing business firms to donate to individual Diet members.

However, the SDP, the biggest party in the coalition, rejected the plan, expressing disaffection over the dropping of a blanket ban on individual acceptance of corporate donations from the compromise version, they said.

Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa told reporters he will make his own decision on whether to resign or not if the pacakge is scrapped.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura said earlier in the day he can neither confirm nor deny whether the prime minister will resign if he fails to secure Diet approval for political reform.

Asked about an adviser's comment on the possible resignation of the cabinet depending on the result of Diet debate on reform, the top government spokesman said, "I neither confirm nor deny that."

Shusei Tanaka, a special adviser to Hosokawa, said Tuesday the premier may disband the cabinet and step down if he fails to get the measures put into law.

Hosokawa has pledged to take political responsibility if he fails to achieve political reform during the current Diet session, which ends Saturday. The package cleared the lower house last November.

Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata said Hosokawa should dissolve the lower house for a snap general election, rather than stepping down, if the political reform program fails to win parliamentary approval by Saturday. "I don't think a mass resignation of the cabinet is possible with such a high level of public support," he said.

Hata also ruled out the possibility of carrying the government reform proposals over to the next regular session of the Diet, which begins next Monday.

With Saturday's closure of the current Diet session approaching, the prospects of reaching a compromise over the package at the Diet panel are poor because of major differences between the coalition and the LDP.

The legislation could also become law if passed a second time by the lower chamber by a majority of two-thirds or more of the members present.

However, the coalition will need about 70 LDP rebels to secure a majority of two-thirds in the lower house and political analysts predict such a case unlikely although the LDP is divided over the package.

Takeshi Nagano, president of the Japan Federation of Employers Associations (Nikkeiren), a top business leader, called for early compromise on the political reform package so that the government can get down to the task of rebuilding Japan's economy.

Government Confirms 31 Jan Diet Session Plan

OW2101020894 Tokyo KYODO in English 1054 GMT 21 Jan 94

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 21 KYODO—The government formally decided Friday [21 January] to convene a 150-day ordinary Diet session on January 31, government officials said.

The regular Diet session will start two days after the end of the current Extraordinary Session and last until June 29.

Parties Agree To Seek Consumer-Oriented Budget

OW2601114294 Tokyo KYODO in English 1124 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 26 KYODO—The ruling coalition parties agreed Wednesday to seek a consumer-oriented fiscal 1994 budget designed to raise living standards while featuring measures to pull the economy out of recession, party officials said. The agreement, which came at a meeting of policy-makers from the seven parties in Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa's coalition government, also calls for a third supplementary budget for fiscal 1994 to prop up the economy, they said.

But the parties stopped short of reaching a consensus on the issuance of deficit-financing government bonds to finance pump-priming measures. The budget-drafting platform did, however, agree upon the need to "pay attention to fiscal soundness."

The phrase is often used to underline the need to avoid raising government dependence on bonds for revenue, thereby issuing deficit-financing bonds.

Other key points in the platform are:

—To review traditional ways to distribute government money and policy priorities.
—To review ways to allocate funds to public works projects.
—To give incentives to farmers and workers in the fisheries industry.
—To show consideration to small and medium-size businesses.
—To cope with the threat of AIDS and other health-related issues.
—To try to achieve an effective defense force through moderation.
—To rationalize subsidies and promote deregulation.

Groups Resist Growing Rice for Processing

OW2201083494 Tokyo KYODO in English 0751 GMT 22 Jan 94

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 22 KYODO—Agricultural groups in 25 of Japan's 47 prefectures have decided not to grow rice to be used for processing, a survey by KYODO NEWS SERVICE showed Saturday [22 January].

The survey also showed that agricultural cooperatives in 15 prefectures have refused to cooperate in the government's rice production adjustment program.

Farmers in these prefectures were strongly upset with the government's decision to partially open the rice market to imports.

The Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives (Zenchu) adopted a resolution last December not to cooperate with the government in producing rice for processing.

Zenchu officials said the union plans to urge the government to review its farming policy, featuring conversion of rice acreage for production of other farm produce.

Farmers are reluctant to produce rice to be used for processing because of low prices as compared with rice for table use.

Despite their strong reaction to the government's agricultural policy, many agricultural cooperatives acknowledged the need for production adjustment because of government subsidies.

Diet Rejects Minister Censure Motion Over Rice

OW2601100994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0950 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 26 KYODO—The House of Councillors on Wednesday voted down a censure motion against Farm Minister Eijiro Hata over the government's decision last December to open its rice market to imports.

The motion, submitted last December by the main opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), was rejected at an upper house plenary session by a vote of 130 against and 106 for.

Some members of ruling Social Democratic Party (SDP) [SDPJ] were expected to support the motion, but they voted against it or were absent from the vote, resulting in the rejection.

Several SDP members played a key role in voting down government- proposed political reform bills last Friday, refusing to obey the party leadership and joining the opposition in voting against the bills.

A censure motion was last cast in June 1992 against Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa in connection with the nation's cooperation in U.N. peacekeeping operations. That motion was also voted down.

The LDP cast censure motions against Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Hata and Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata last December after the government accepted a proposal to partially open Japan's markets to foreign-made rice.

The proposal was made as part of final negotiations in the Uruguay Round of global trade talks under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

It calls for Japan to open 4 to 8 percent of its domestic rice market as "minimum access" for imports in exchange for a six-year moratorium for replacing all import restrictions with tariffs.

The upper house had delayed deliberation on the motions to concentrate on political reform bills. It did not take a vote on the motion against the foreign minister.

North Korea

Foreign Publications Cited on Nuclear Issue

SK2501123894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1050 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—Foreign publications expressed positive support to the principled stand of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea towards the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula.

The January issue of the Peruvian paper VIDA EMPRESARIAL in an article headlined "DPRK Calls For General and Complete Nuclear Disarmament" pointed out that the alleged nuclear development and nuclear issue of North Korea were invented by the United States and the South Korean authorities in a bid to isolate and stifle the socialist system of Korea, leaving the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons in South Korea intact.

Pressure or international sanctions have no effect, the paper said, stressing "Nuclear Issue of the Korean Peninsula Should Be Solved Through the DPRK-U.S. Talks." Count-down, a mouthpiece of the Japanese society of the participants in the international solidarity march movement for supporting Korea's reunification, said the only way of resolving the nuclear issue involving the possibility to plunge the Korean peninsula into the horrors of war is to make the DPRK-U.S. talks successful. The key to it is the solution in a package deal proposed by the DPRK, said the paper.

The Vietnamese paper PEOPLE'S ARMY January 12 said the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula is a delicate problem affecting the peace and stability of Asia and the rest of the world. It called for an impartial solution to the issue.

Chondoist Group Proposes North-South Contact

SK2401110194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1032 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 24 (KCNA)—The chairwoman of the Central Guidance Committee of the Korean Chondoist Association [KCA], Yu Mi-yong, today sent a telephone message to O Ik-che, ordinary of the South Korean Central Office of Chondoism, proposing a working-level contact between representatives of Chondoists of the North and the South to discuss the joint celebration of the centenary of the peasants' war in 1894.

The message said that the joint celebration by the North and the South of the anniversary of the war waged under the slogan "Reject the West and Japan" and "Promote national interests and welfare of the people" would be of weighty significance in opposing outside forces and their lackeys, promoting national harmony and unity and accomplishing the noble cause of reunification in the '90s, inheriting the spirit of national independence and the patriotic spirit displayed by Chondoists and other participants in the war. The message said three delegates led by Han Yong-su, vice-chairman of the Central Guidance Committee of the KCA, would be sent to the conference room of the neutral nations supervisory commission at Panmunjom at 10:00 on February 3 to discuss the matter with the South side.

South's 'Anti-Communist War Racket' Denounced

SK2501045594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0426 GMT 25 Jan 94

["Anti-Communist War Hysterics Precipitates Self-Destruction"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppets, clamouring about "possibility of military provocation" and "arms buildup" by the North, on January 21 cried for "the establishment of a posture of prompt regular warfare" and "perfection of the all-out security posture of civilian, government and army" to cope with them.

Branding this as a deliberate move to incite hostile feelings against and confrontation with the North and aggravate the North-South relations, a MINJU CHOSON analyst says:

It is the South Korean puppets who are aggravating the North-South relations and rendering the situation on the Korean peninsula tense.

Entering this year, the Kim Yong-sam group has staged war exercises against the North almost every day and is crying that in case the "Team Spirit" joint manouevres are suspended, it would hold an integrated war game of "Ulchi" and "Focus Lens" on a larger scale with the United States.

The puppets are these days zealously resorting to North-South confrontation and anti-communist war racket. This is their desperate attempt to get out of the serious crisis.

The Kim Yong-sam group, driven to an acute crisis in less than one year after its seizure of power, seeks to divert elsewhere the attention of the people by a more acute North-South confrontation and frantic anti-communist war racket and keep its power at whatever cost in reliance upon outside forces.

North-South confrontation and war adventure, however, cannot be a way out of the crisis. It is as foolish as jumping from the frying pan into the fire.

'World Public' Denounces Kim Yong-sam Regime

SK2501113094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1025 GMT 25 Jan 94

["'Kim Yong-sam's Is Military Fascist Regime'"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—World public denounces the crimes committed by Kim Yong-sam in establishing a military fascist rule under the "civilian" veil.

The International Committee of Jurists for Democracy and Human Rights in South Korea in a statement charged that after seating himself in the "presidential" chair, Kim Yong-sam has refused to dismantle the "Security Planning Board," a suppressive machine, and kept the fascist laws including the "National Security Law."

Television No. 2 of France said that the present South Korean "regime", under the mask of "civilian politics," continues repressing the people as under the military fascist rule.

The Cuban magazine BOHEMIA said:

"The South Korean people demanded that Kim Yong-sam restore democracy, end the fascist rule, clean up all manner of corruption and fling open the door of reunification. But he refused to do so and he is not a man fit for such things".

The Rwandan Committee for Supporting the Reunification of Korea in a statement said the South Korean authorities showed that the present government under the "civilian" veil was a military fascist "regime" when they let loose the repressive force and blocked the fourth pan-national rally.

A delegate of the International Association Against Torture demanded that the South Korean authorities immediately scrap the "National Security Law" and unconditionally release the innocent people.

Front Condemns ROK for Decision on Mun Funeral

SK2401105094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1005 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 24 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland on January 23 published a statement condemning the South Korean authorities for blocking the visit of the mourners' group of the North side to South Korea to mourn the death of the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, a patriotic champion of reunification, at his bier.

By blocking the South Korean visit of our mourners' group under an unreasonable pretext the South Korean rulers revealed themselves as the truculent fascist dictators, human scums and unprecedented barbarians who took off "civilian" veil, bereft of elementary human morality and etiquette, the statement said, and went on:

"The South Korean 'regime', which is still branding the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) as an 'organisation benefiting the enemy', invented by the military dictators of the 'Sixth Republic' to suppress and stifle it, is little different from the preceding military fascist regimes, and, accordingly, it is clear to everyone that the fascist 'regime' cannot be called a 'civilian government'.

"Worse still, the South Korean authorities refused to accept our offer for mourning visit, a purely humanitarian and compatriotic issue, by linking it with the fictitious 'nuclear problem'. This goes to prove that the 'nuclear issue' loud-mouthed by them is a product of a sinister political purpose.

"The Kim Yong-sam group must act with discretion, well aware that angry voices condemning this anti-human and rude act are ringing out not only among the people of all strata, the opposition parties but among members of the 'Democratic Liberal Party' of South Korea."

People Condemn ROK for Blocking Mourners' Trip

SK2401105994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 24 (KCNA)—The people of the northern half of Korea are bitterly condemning the inhuman act of the Kim Yong-sam traitorous clique in blocking the Seoul trip of a mourners' group of the North for Rev. Mun Ik-hwan.

The director of the Kim Chong-tae General Electric Locomotive Works, Pak Su-pom, branded the act of the Kim Yong-sam clique as an inhuman act of fascist hooligans who take no account of the beautiful manners and customs handed down through generations and elementary civility and morality.

He said:

"The South Korean puppet clique mumbled about the 'nuclear issue' and 'an organization profiting the enemy.' It is really a far-fetched argument and an expression of a vicious scheme to dampen the nation's fervor of reunification, delay the country's reunification and finally break off the ties of the nation".

He warned that a sledge-hammer blow will be dealt at the Kim Yong-sam clique, the enemy with whom our nation cannot live under the same sky.

Yi Song-pong, chief pastor of the Pongsu Church, Pyongyang, said:

"By not allowing delegates of the North to go to Seoul to mourn the deceased, the Kim Yong-sam fascist clique stripped themselves bare as a group of barbarians ignoring human morality."

He said Rev. Mun Ik-hwan was a patriotic champion of reunification who devotedly struggled for the reunification of the country and democratization of society in South Korea for many years. He pointed out that the "civilian" signboard hung out by the Kim Yong-sam clique was false and it was a group of traitors who did not want national reconciliation and reunification.

"I join the religious men in declaring to the world that the Kim Yong-sam fascist clique is a group of truculent, despicable traitors who must no longer be left in this world where only love, harmony and trust must prevail and, on this land of our nation," he added.

Pomminnyon Denounces ROK for Barring Mourners

SK2501055494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0417 GMT 25 Jan 94

["South Korean Authorities Denounced for Blocking Seoul Trip of Mourners' Group of North Side"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—"Barring the North side from mourning the death of the late Mun Ik-hwan at his bier, a pastor who devoted himself to the patriotic movement for reunification, calling the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) an 'organisation benefiting the enemy', is a base act that can be done only by hoodlums ignorant of morality and politics."

The North side headquarters of Pomminnyon said this in a statement Monday denouncing the South Korean authorities for blocking the southern trip of the North side's mourning group for the late Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, a pro-reunification patriot. The statement brands this act as an intolerable insult to the North side headquarters of Pomminnyon and all those concerned with Pomminnyon and compatriots at home and abroad and one more political persecution of the deceased who devoted his all to the patriotic movement for reunification of Pomminnyon.

It further says:

"The Rev. Mun Ik-hwan was a leading figure of the movement for democracy and reunification who, from the first days of the Pomminnyon-led movement, fought for the founding of an organisation of Pomminnyon and its legalisation in South Korea, braving all manner of persecution and suppression.

"To regard Pomminnyon as an 'organisation benefiting the enemy' is, in the final analysis, to regard the whole nation as an enemy, and is a criminal act that can be done only by those who are opposed to the unity of the nation and reunification.

"By blocking the Seoul trip of our mourners' group the Kim Yong-sam group made it plain that 'national reconciliation' and 'divorce from the military dictatorship' declared by it so often are lies and that it is a group of traitors and anti-reunification elements outdistancing the preceding military dictators."

Noting that today all the fellow countrymen in the North, the South and overseas are turning out as one in the struggle to achieve reunification in the 90s by united efforts of the nation at any cost, the statement stresses the need to immediately cut out the cancerous being swimming against this trend of the nation.

Pomminnyon Headquarters Discusses 1994 Tasks

SK2501111494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1103 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—A general meeting of the Central Committee of the North side headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) was held in Pyongyang today.

Discussed at the meeting was the task of the Central Committee of the North side headquarters of Pomminnyon for making this year a year of great national unity.

Paek In-chun, chairman of the North side headquarters, recalled in his report that the great leader President Kim Il-song in his New Year address set before all the compatriots in the North, the South and overseas the task to unite under the banner of great unity of the whole nation and accelerate the cause of national reunification through a nationwide struggle.

He stated that the North side headquarters of Pomminnyon, side by side with the Pomminnyon organisations in South Korea and overseas, will wage a vigorous struggle for the achievement of great national unity, highly assessing the proposal of the overseas headquarters of Pomminnyon to set this year as a year of great national unity for national reunification and launch a powerful movement for this unity as an entirely just and timely initiative.

The present situation urgently demands Pomminnyon smash the separatists' acts of confrontation against reunification and create a favorable climate for reunification in the 1990s, the reporter said, proposing measures to that end.

He called for vigorously waging the movement for great national unity in hearty response to "10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country," a great political charter of national unity, so as to pave the way for national reunification this year.

The report was followed by speeches.

A resolution was adopted at the meeting.

ROK Party To Form Human Rights Committee

SK2601102494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1003 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 26 (KCNA)—The opposition Democratic Party of South Korea at a caucus meeting Monday decided to inaugurate a measure committee based on the human rights committee of the party to promote the release of all the prisoners of conscience, a Seoul-based radio reported.

The Democratic Party paid high tribute to the reunification will of the late Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and repeatedly urged the authorities to pardon and reinstate him.

South Delegation Said Visiting Laos, France

SK2601050994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0430 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 26 (KCNA)—A delegation of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon) headed by vice-chairman of its Central Committee Hong Chi-yong visited Laos and France, according to radio Voice of National Salvation from Seoul.

During its visit to Laos, the delegation had talks with leading Cadres of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and the Lao Front of National Construction.

On the occasion the Hanminjon delegation highly appreciated the achievements made by the Lao People's Revolutionary Party in the efforts to set up a people's democratic system and expressed support to them.

The Laotian side highly appreciated the undaunted struggle waged by Hanminjon for independence, democracy and reunification as a patriotic vanguard unit in South Korea and expressed support and solidarity for it.

During its visit to France the delegation had conversations with officials of the International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace in Korea, the International Committee of Jurists for Democracy and Human Rights in South Korea, the French Action Committee To Support the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea and other international solidarity organisations and French organisations.

The Hanminjon delegation expressed thanks to international solidarity organisations and French organisations for their support to the struggle of the South Korean people for national reunification and reached a consensus on the matter of strengthening mutual solidarity.

Officials of international solidarity organisations and French organisations expressed full support to the "10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country" put forward by the great leader President Kim Il-song and evinced the determination to direct efforts to the struggle for the realisation of the programme.

They expressed positive support to the struggle of Hanminjon and South Korean people for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

KCNA on Foreign Minister Meeting Iran's Mottaki

SK2501043994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0410 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam Monday met and had a friendly talk with the visiting Iranian deputy minister of foreign affairs, Manuchehr Mottaki.

On the same day, Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, met and had a friendly conversation with the Iranian Foreign Ministry delegation led by the deputy minister at the Mansudae Assembly Hall.

On the occasion the head of the delegation expressed the hope that the Korean people under the wise guidance of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il would achieve the reunification of the country at an early date.

He wished the Korean people greater success in socialist construction in the three-year period of adjustment.

Accord Signed on Diplomatic Visas

SK2501045694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0428 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—An agreement on the abolition of the visa system of diplomatic passport carriers was signed here Monday between the governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Present at the signing ceremony on the Korean side were Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Cho Kyu-il and officials concerned, and on the opposite side were the members of the Iranian Foreign Ministry delegation led by its Deputy Minister Manuchehr Mottaki and the charge d'affaires ad interim of the Iranian Embassy here.

Hwang Chang-yop, WPK Delegation Visits PRC

Radio Reports Activities

SK2401095794 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 23 Jan 94

[Text] Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee, and his entourage visited the Beijing Plaza and a newly built housing complex at the Fengtai District on 15 January.

Hwang Chang-yop and his entourage also visited the Guangzhou Labor Movement Training School's Memorial Hall in Guangzhou City, Guangdong Province, which was set up by President Mao Zedong; the (Tueshu) Park; the Agricultural Science Institute and various plants and enterprises in Sunde City and (Puer) City, from 17 to 20 January.

The group arrived in Shenyang City on 21 January. It visited various organizations and plants, including the Liaoning Exhibition Hall in Shenyang City on 22 January. During its stay, the group was invited to banquets hosted by Comrade Ding Guangen, member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee, and the Guangdong Province Committee and Liaoning Province Committee of the CPC. Participants of the banquet toasted to the long life of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, and the Chinese leaders, including the respected Comrade Jiang Zemin.

Delegation Returns From PRC

SK2401055894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0503 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 24 (KCNA)—Secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] Hwang Chang-yop and his companions came back home Sunday after their visit to China. Vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee Chi Chae-yong, and Chinese Ambassador to Korea Qiao Zonghuai were present at Pyongyang railway station to meet them.

Daily Denounces Japan Defense Adviser's Remarks

SK2401053594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0511 GMT 24 Jan 94

["NODONG SINMUN Slams Outburst of Japanese Defence Agency Advisor"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang January 24 (KCNA)—The former chairman of the Joint Staff Council of the Japanese "Self-Defence Forces" [SDF] and now advisor to the Defence Agency, Sakuma, in his lecture in Tokyo recently, let loose a string of bellicose outpourings, blabbing that the SDF officers should be given "bigger voice and influence" in the present government and Japan and South Korea, as the parties concerned, cannot sit idle" in an event of contingency on the Korean peninsula.

Commenting on this, a NODONG SINMUN analyst today says:

Sakuma, a professional SDF officer, let out the bellicose blast as soon as he took office as an advisor to the SDF. This is a very ill-boding act. This indicates that the Japanese military quarters, having built up strength for turning Japan into a military power, are now going to embark upon the road of reinvasion, exerting a direct influence even on the state power.

His utterances show how frenziedly the war-thirsty military quarters are trying to proceed overseas by destroying the domestic device of legal control.

Sakuma disclosed the scheme to create a legal condition for a war of aggression when he rattled on "revision of the SDF law" and "study and enactment of a law on the case of emergency." Should the arbitrariness of the military be allowed and given greater scope in Japan with a record of aggression behind her, it will, no doubt, follow in the footsteps of the Japanese imperialists.

Korea is the first target of reinvasion of the Japanese reactionaries. Sakuma's claim that Japan, together with South Korea, "is a party concerned in a possible Korean war" cannot be construed otherwise than an outcry of Japan threatening a war in Korea.

The war-hungry military quarters of Japan should ponder over the matter, not making a mistake as regards the DPRK.

Daily Cautions Asia Against Trusting Japan

SK2601052394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0445 GMT 26 Jan 94

["Empty Talk Cannot Remove Worry"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 26 (KCNA)—The Japanese authorities will reportedly "assure the Asian countries that Japan will never become a military power" and "do its utmost to win their trust" at the ASEAN Security Forum to be held in Bangkok in July this year.

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today says Japan's bid to get the trust of the Asian nations is as ridiculous as a wolf imitating the voice of the sheep.

The analyst says:

Asian nations heavily suffered from the Japanese imperialists' aggression and occupation in the past, which left deep scars on the hearts of their peoples. This is the cause of their distrust in and caution against Japan. Their distrust and caution are growing with the revival of militarism in Japan and its moves to become a military power. The Asian peoples have been told by top Japanese authorities more than once that Japan would not be a military power. Japan, however, has escalated arms buildup for the purpose of becoming a military power.

Japan's moves to become a military power is chiefly aimed at realising with strength the design of "the greater east Asia coprosperity sphere" it failed to fulfil in the past.

Japan's promise not to be a military power is a crafty ruse to launch a military aggression by blunting the vigilance of the Asian peoples.

If Japan truly wants to get their trust, it must actually demonstrate its will of peace.

It must, first of all, slash military expenditures, cut back armament, cancel overseas dispatch of troops and give up the nuclear armament program. It must also fully liquidate its past crimes and honestly discharge its obligation to make an apology and compensation.

If Japan's promise to refrain from becoming a military power is true, it must show it in practice.

Daily Demands Compensation for Japan's 'Crimes'

SK2501054494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0422 GMT 25 Jan 94

["NODONG SINMUN Lambastes Japanese Authorities' Scheme To Sidestep Liquidation of Past"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a commentary titled "Empty Talk About 'Apology' Is Unnecessary" accusing the Japanese authorities of persistently trying to sidestep the liquidation of Japan's past crimes.

After taking office, Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa stated more than once that Japan "repents" of and "apologizes" for its past crimes and Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata declared recently that Japan would "always keep in mind its repentance of the past," the analyst says, and continues:

The Japanese authorities, however, have failed to present a concrete solution commensurate with the apology and have kept mum about compensation, the keypoint of the liquidation of the past crimes.

This bespeaks that they have no willingness to honestly resolve the question of liquidation of the past crimes but intend to hush it up with the empty talk about "repentance."

"Apology" without a solution is not apology and the liquidation of the past without compensation is unthinkable. If Japan is willing to properly liquidate its past doings, it must make an adequate material compensation together with honest apology.

Any apology and compensation would not be enough for the unheard- of crimes and heavy losses imposed by the Japanese imperialists upon Korea and other Asian nations after illegally occupying them in the past.

With nothing can their past crimes be covered up, still less is it impossible to dismiss the liquidation of the crimes only with the word of "apology." [sentence as received] The Japanese authorities would be well advised to properly liquidate the past crimes, instead of resorting to petty tricks.

Koreans in Japan Thankful for Educational Aid

SK2601102194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1002 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 26 (KCNA)—Korean educational workers and scientists in Japan met in Tokyo on Jan. 22 to express their thanks to the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song and the dear leader Marshal Kim Chong-il for the 125th installment of educational aid fund and stipends.

In his report at the meeting, chairman of the Union of Korean Teachers in Japan Pak Kwang-taek extended highest honour and warmest thanks to the fatherly leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song and the dear leader Marshal Kim Chong-il for showing paternal loving care for the development of the democratic national education of Koreans in Japan.

The reporter called on the educational workers to radically improve national education of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) with the 50th anniversary of the August 15 liberation of Korea, the 40th anniversary of the formation of Chongnyon and the 17th Congress of Chongnyon one year off.

Many representatives expressed their resolve.

A letter to Generalissimo Kim Il-song was adopted at the meeting.

Embassy in Russia Discusses Kim Il-song Address

SK2601092194 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0100 GMT 23 Jan 94

[Text] On 20 January, a meeting was held at the DPRK Embassy in Russia to explain Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year's address.

Invited there were (Vasiliy Stratuchev), member of the council of the Russian Federation; (Nikolay Aritonov), member of the Russian State Committee and vice chairman of the Russian Agricultural Party; (Aleksandr Nadrechev), member of the State Committee and chairman of its Agricultural Affairs Committee; (Viktor Zorkaltzev), member of the State Committee, chairman of the Regional Organization Affairs Committee of the Socialist Association of the State Committee, and vice chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Russian Federation Communist Party; (Viktor Ilyushin), member of the State Committee and chairman of the Security Committee of the State Committee; (Kostantin Nikolayev), first vice chairman of the Political Executive Committee of the Soviet Communist Party Council of the Communist Party League; (Nikolay Latukin), vice chairman of the Russian Agricultural Party; (Aleksandr Lapin), secretary of the All-Union Bolshevik Communist Party Central Committee; (Vladimir Kusev), secretary of the Russian Communist Workers Party Central Committee; (Vladimir Markov), secretary of the Russian Communist League; (Andrey Yevreskiy), first secretary of All-Union Lenin Komsomol Central Committee; (Nikolay Visin), president of (?Palria) Publishing Company; and other relevant functionaries of the political parties, organizations, and publications and press, including the Russian Free Trade Union. Son Song-pil, our country's ambassador to Russia, and functionaries of the embassy attended the meeting.

Ambassador Son Song-pil spoke. Referring in detail to the basic contents of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year's address, he pointed out: Last year, our people won a brilliant victory in socialist construction and demonstrated the might of chuche Korea to the world despite the harsh trials the imperialists and reactionaries viciously subjected them to through their anti-Republic maneuvers. This was a result of the outstanding and tested leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. This year, too, our party and people will unite as one around the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and thoroughly implement an independent, self-reliant, and self-defensive revolutionary line. As a result, they will further strengthen the political, economic, and military might of the country and positively struggle to achieve national reunification through a way of a confederal system based on one nation, one state, two systems, and two governments.

Pointing out that our party and the Government of the Republic will consistently carry out an independent, peaceful, and goodwill foreign policy in the future, too, he continued: Today our people's struggle is arduous, but the Korean people, who are struggling for the just cause under the wise leadership of the great leader [suryong] and the great leader [chidoja], are ever victorious. The maneuvers of the imperialists and the reactionaries, who want to isolate and crush [apsal] the DPRK under the pretext of the non- existent nuclear development, will not avoid their own destruction.

Participants in the meeting congratulated our people on their brilliant achievements made in socialist construction last year and sincerely wished them a greater success in their future works under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

President Kim Il-song Greets Indian Counterpart

SK2501113194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1106 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today sent a message of greetings to Indian President Shankar Dayal Sharma on the occasion of the day of the Republic of India.

Noting that since the founding of the Republic the Indian people have made great progress in their efforts to promote national unity and achieve independent development of the country, President Kim Il-song wished the president and people of India success in the work to build a new independent and prosperous India.

He stressed that the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between Korea and India would continue to develop in strength in future in accordance with the ideals of independence, friendship and non-alignment.

Newspapers Observe India's Independence Day

SK2601121094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1103 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 26 (KCNA)—Papers here today observe the day of the Republic of India.

The Indian people have made great strides in their efforts to consolidate national independence and build a prosperous new society since the foundation of the republic, MINJU CHOSON in a by-lined article says, and continues:

The Republic of India, one of the founders of the Non-Aligned Movement, is pursuing the non-aligned foreign policy. India is developing the friendly and cooperative relations with different countries including neighbouring countries and striving for peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

The Governments and peoples of Korea and India, non-aligned countries in Asia, established the bonds of friendship and cooperation long ago and have developed it.

The Korean people, believing that the ties between the two peoples will further strengthen in future, sincerely hope that the Indian people will make greater progress in the endeavours for the independent development and prosperity of the country.

Kim Il-song Sends Messages to Foreign Leaders

SK2501045094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0408 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent messages of greetings to foreign heads of state on the New Year 1994.

Among them were Phumiphon Adunyadet, King of Thailand; Borhanoddin Rabbani, president of the Islamic State of Afghanistan; Maaouiya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, president of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania; Mohamed Abdelaziz, president of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic and concurrently secretary general of the Polisario Front; Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, amir of the State of Kuwait; Muhamad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt; H. Kamuzu Banda, president of the Republic of Malawi; Alpha Oumar Konare, president and head of state of the Republic of Mali; Blaise Compaore, president and head of state and chairman of the Council of Ministers of Burkina Faso; France Albert Rene, president of the Republic of Seychelles; Ange Patasse, president of the Central African Republic; Henri Konan Bedie, president of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire; Pascal Lissouba, president and head of state of the Republic of the Congo; John George Melvin Compton, prime minister of Saint Lucia; and Vere Cornwall Bird, prime minister of Antigua and Barbuda.

President Kim Il-song in the messages expressed the belief that the friendly relations between the DPRK and those countries will further develop in the New Year, and wished them success in their work for the prosperity of their countries.

Kim Chong-il Greets Foreign Heads of State

SK2501114094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1046 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent messages of greetings to Mohamed Abdelaziz, president of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic and secretary general of the Polisario [Popular Front for the Liberation of Saquia El Hambra and Rio de Oro] Front, Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt, and Blaise Compaore, president, head of state and chairman of the Council of Ministers of Burkina Faso on the new year 1994.

Comrade Kim Chong-il in the messages wished them greater success in their work for the prosperity of their countries in the new year.

Foreign Visitors' Praise of Kim Chong-il Cited

SK2501104094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021 GMT 25 Jan 94

["'Comrade Kim Chong-il Is an Illustrious Leader With Literary and Military Accomplishments and Loyalty and Filial Piety'"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—Foreign visitors to Korea speak highly of the feats and personality of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Mady Ndao who had visited Korea in the capacity of special envoy of the Senegalese president said he keenly felt that His Excellency Kim Chong-il is the greatest thinker and theoretician of the present era and ever-victorious iron-willed brilliant commander with literary and military accomplishments.

"His Excellency Kim Chong-il has steadily developed and enriched the immortal chuche idea and strengthened and developed the Korean People's Army into steel-like Armed Forces that can defeat any aggressors at one blow," he noted.

Alhaji Adam Bukhari Ziblim, general secretary of the National Convention Party of Ghana, had this to say:

"The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is a great man possessed of courage, tested organising ability and iron will. I am struck with admiration at his precious feats and energetic guidance in strengthening the Korean People's Army into matchless ranks and building many monumental edifices.

"The looks of the Korean people who are marching forward in soaring spirits, full of confidence in victory, convinced me that no one on earth is a match for this people."

Toyohide Araki who led a delegation of the Japan Society for the Study of Kimilsongism is quoted as saying:

"Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il is a great man of the great men with both literary and military accomplishments.

"The world is unstinting in praising him for humbling the U.S. imperialists."

P. Mabiti, an MP of Tanzania, said he was struck with wonder at the phenomenal development of Korea.

"The proud achievements gained by Korea are all a shining fruition of the independent politics of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the tested, veteran leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il with literary and military accomplishments and loyalty and filial piety, who is leading the revolutionary cause to victory with his matchless grit and rock-firm faith," he stressed.

Foreign Papers Carry Kim Il-song 1994 Address

SK2401053994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0501 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 24 (KCNA)—The New Year address of the great leader President Kim Il-song was carried by the Indian papers SAVERA and PROLETARIAN ERA, Yemeni papers AL-RAYY AL-'AM and AL-MUSTAQBAL, the Tunisian paper ANNONCES, the Egyptian paper MIDDLE EAST OBSERVER, the Senegalese paper LE TEMOIN, the Nepalese paper JAN SANGARUSHA, the Finnish paper TYOKANSAN SANOMAT, the Ghanaian paper GHANAIAN TIMES, the Syrian paper NIDAL SHAAM, the Burkinabe paper SIDWAYA and the Palestinian magazine PALESTINE AL-SHURA.

Seminars on the New Year address were also held by the society for the study of the chuche idea of Guinean youth and students and at the Harare, Zimbabwe, Centre for the Study of the Chuche Philosophy.

The reporters and speakers said that the New Year address, a highly important work indicating the way for the DPRK to achieve greater victory and success, is of universal significance to all the progressive countries.

The idea of establishing new international political and economic orders and developing South-South cooperation set forth in the New Year address is a fighting programme to which developing countries should hold fast.

A lecture on the New Year address was given by the Lugazi branch of the Uganda-DPRK Friendship Association and reading sessions on it were held by the Maputo city committee of the Momzambique Liberation Front Party and the West African Examinations Council branch of the Ghanaian National Institute of the Chuche Idea.

Zimbabwean Group Notes Kim Chong-il's Birthday

SK2401111394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1039 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 24 (KCNA)—The Zimbabwean National Committee for the Study of the Chuche Idea and the Zimbabwe-Korea Solidarity and Friendship Association on January 16 issued a joint appeal to the chuche idea study organisations and organisations for friendship and solidarity with the Korean people in different countries with the approach of the birthday of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Noting that February 16 is the 52nd birthday of Comrade Kim Chong-il, the appeal said his birth was an epochal event in the struggle to develop the revolutionary cause of chuche to a new, higher stage and realise the independence of the progressive people of the world.

It further said:

"Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il is an illustrious leader who enjoys unbounded respect and reverence not only from the Korean people but also from the revolutionary people of the world for his undying exploits and contributions for the times and mankind.

"It is the highest glory and happiness of the progressive people of the world as well as the Korean people to have dear Comrade Kim Chong-il as the sagacious leader.

"To grandly celebrate the birthday of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and extend warm congratulations to him is the unanimous will and wish not only of us but also of all the people aspiring after independence.

"The Zimbabwean National Committee for the Study of the Chuche Idea and the Zimbabwe-Korea Solidarity and Friendship Association call upon the chuche idea study organisations, organisations for solidarity and friendship with the Korean people and progressive peoples of many countries to significantly greet the birthday of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, the great lodestar of the era of independence and a peerless great man of the century, as a common jubilee of mankind, learn from his greatness, extend greatest glory and warm greetings to him and wholeheartedly wish him good health and long life by widely organising colorful functions".

WPK Sends Greetings to French Party Congress

SK2401112194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1104 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 24 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] Monday sent a message of greetings to the 28th Congress of the French Communist Party.

The message says over the past 70 years the French Communist Party has been engaged in a vigorous struggle against war and fascism and for defence of political right of broad segments of the French working masses and their freedom, democracy, the sovereignty of the nation, and the socialist cause and expresses full support and firm solidarity for the struggle of the French Communist Party for peace and socialism.

The message expresses the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two parties will grow stronger and develop in the future and wishes the French Communist Party new success in the congress.

WPK Greets Britannic Communist Party Chief

SK2401060194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0505 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 24 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea sent a message of greetings on January 20 to Michael Hicks upon his reelection as general secretary of the Britannic Communist Party.

Believing that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two parties will further develop in the future in the common idea for socialism, the message wished him success in his responsible work for defending the interests of the working masses including the working class and expanding and strengthening the party ranks.

Peruvian Groups Hold Joint Meeting on Korea

SK2601103094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1017 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 26 (KCNA)—The Peru-Korea Institute of Culture and Friendship and the Peruvian Committee for Support to the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea held a joint annual meeting on Jan. 14.

President of the institute Angel Castro Labarello noted in his report that last year the Korean people under the wise guidance of the great leader Generalissimo Kim Il-song and the dear leader Marshal Kim Chong-il smashed the provocations of the imperialists, defended the sovereignty of the country and the dignity of the nation and demonstrated to the world the superiority of man-centred socialism, the validity of the revolutionary line of independence and the might of the single-hearted unity of the leader, the party and the masses.

This year the institute will expand its ranks and strengthen diverse political and cultural activities and relations with political parties and public organisations, he declared.

In his report, secretary of the Peruvian Committee for Support to the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea Felix N. Fernandez Torres vowed to conduct brisk solidarity activities this year, denouncing the acts of aggression and division on the part of the United States and the South Korean authorities and supporting the reunification of Korea on the three principles of national reunification and in the form of a confederation.

Action programmes of the institute and the committee for this year were adopted at the meeting.

Kim Il-song's Revolutionary Ideology Discussed

SK2401133194 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0200 GMT 23 Jan 94

[Unattributed talk: "Our Party's Formalization of the Great Leader's Revolutionary Ideology"]

[Text] Comrade Kim Chong-il has made a great achievement, which will become immortal in the world, by energetically conducting ideological and theoretical activities to inherit and develop the revolutionary ideology of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song. The formalization of the revolutionary ideology of the respected and beloved great leader [suryong] by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il occupies the most important position in his ideological and theoretical achievements gained in developing and evolving the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's revolutionary spirit.

Scientifically formalizing the leader's [suryong] revolutionary ideology is of basic significance in advancing the revolution and construction as intended by the leader [suryong] and in consummating the working class' revolutionary cause.

We can make the working class and popular masses cherish the immortal revolutionary banner to endlessly consummate the revolutionary cause only if we formalize the revolutionary ideology of the leader [suryong].

The cause of formalizing the leader's revolutionary ideology cannot be easily achieved by anyone because it is regarded as a lawful requirement in the developing revolution, but it can be achieved by the leader's [suryong] successor, who is endless loyal to the leader and who has a far-sighted extraordinary wisdom and a scientific insight.

The historic cause to scientifically formalize the respected and beloved leader's revolutionary ideology was brilliantly carried out by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who is the genius of ideology and theory and great leader [yongdoja] of the chuche cause. The dear comrade leader scientifically formalized and announced the leader's revolutionary ideology by reflecting the warm aspiration and unanimous desire of the people, who want to comply with the indispensable requirement for our party and the developing revolution and the revolutionary ideology of the great leader [suryong] in combination with the esteemed name of the leader [suryong].

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il brilliantly solved the question of comprehensively systematizing the principle of the chuche idea by energetically conducting the ideological and theoretical activities and he has taught: Based on his deep study of the basic principle and essential contents of the chuche idea, he has formalized our party's guiding ideology as a monolithic system of theory and method of chuche idea.

As formalized by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, the revolutionary ideology of the great leader is a system of the theory and method of the chuche idea. In other words, it is a monolithic system of the chuche idea, as well as the system of the revolution and construction based on embodiment of the idea.

The scientific formalization of the great leader's revolutionary ideology by the dear comrade leader is a significant event in effecting an upturn in the development of our party and the revolution and in our people's ideological and spiritual lives. It is also a historic declaration that announced the respected and beloved leader's [suryong] revolutionary spirit as the highest stage of the development of the working class' revolutionary ideology. This, indeed, becomes an immortal achievement contributed to the development of ideology of mankind and to the consummation of the revolutionary cause of the working class.

Thanks to the formalization of the revolutionary ideology of the respected and beloved leader by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, his revolutionary ideology has been a great guiding ideology for the revolution and construction in our times, the chuche era. As a result, its historic truth has been disclosed.

One of the basic characteristics of the revolutionary spirit of the great leader [suryong] lies on the fact that it is a system of ideology and theory—the essence of the great chuche idea—which was founded for the first time in the ideological history of mankind.

The great leader's revolutionary ideology—the essence of the chuche idea—indicates that all of its contents has been developed and systemized based on the theory and method of the chuche idea.

The revolutionary ideology of the leading working class regards dialectical and historical materialism as a basis for the outlook of the world. The world consists of materials based on the revolutionary ideology of the leading working class. The world is based on a principle of dialectical materialism, which means that it is constantly being changed and developed by the material movement, as well as on a principle of historical materialism that applies to the history of society.

The primitive philosophy of the working class greatly contributed to overcoming the mystery, subjectivity, and fatalism on the question of mankind's fate, but could not handle the question of mankind's fate because its direct mission is to reveal the essence of the objective world and the lawfulness of the development of its movement.

The question of the fate of the working popular masses is raised profoundly for the first time by the chuche idea as a question of the outlook of the world. The chuche idea has solved all problems of the outlook of the world centering on mankind, the working popular masses, as well as an outlook of the world which its direct mission is to contribute to pioneer the fate of the working popular masses.

The chuche idea has developed the essence of the world based on mankind. Also, it has expounded the lawfulness of the global change and development in combination with mankind. As a result, it has clearly presented ways to pioneer the fate of mankind, of the working popular masses.

As stated, the chuche idea fully elucidates all problems of the outlook of the world centering on mankind and is the most scientific and revolutionary outlook of the world centering on mankind. The progressiveness and historic system of socialist ideology can be determined on how much it can correctly elucidate a way for the pioneer of the fate of the popular masses.

The great leader's revolutionary ideology—the essence of the chuche idea—is one that elucidates most correctly the way for the pioneer of the working popular masses' fate. Because of this, it has entered the highest stage of development of the working class' revolutionary ideology. Therefore, it becomes a great guiding ideology for the revolution and construction in our times, the chuche era.

Also, the basic characteristics of the great leader's revolutionary ideology lies in the fact that it has a completed compositional system of the idea, theory, and method of chuche. Because the great leader's revolutionary ideology has the compositional system of the idea, theory, and method of chuche, its historic position, as the highest peak of the development of the working class' revolutionary ideology, exists, thus giving a perfect solution to all theoretical and practical problems in the revolution and construction in the chuche era.

The compositional system of Marxism includes philosophy, political economics, and scientific socialism. The historic mission of Marxism is to prepare the working class for the revolution and to improve the labor movement based on scientific foundation. To fully carry out this mission, therefore, Marxism had to abolish [tapa] religion, idealism, and metaphysics, but instead establish a materialistic and dialectical outlook of the world. Also, it had to scientifically disclose the secrecy of the exploitation by capitalism; had to explain the origination and the development of the capitalist economy and the lawfulness of the collapse of capitalism; and had to elucidate the inevitability of the victory of the socialist revolution.

After then, Marxism consisted of three major systems of dialectical and historical materialism, and socialism of political economics and science. Marxism, which is a theory formulated at a time when the working class entered the stage of history waging a struggle against capitalism, greatly contributed to clearing up the exploiting class and system and achieving a class liberation for the popular masses. However, as the times change and history develops, Marxism also could not avoid historical limits.

Unlike the previous revolutionary ideologies of the working class, the constituting systems of the great leader's revolutionary ideology are ideology, theory, and methods. The great leader's revolutionary ideology had the unique constituting systems because the great ideology is related with the sacred historic mission of the times and revolution.

Our times consists of a new historical era—the chuche era—in which the working popular masses, who were once exploited and oppressed, emerge as the master of history, independently and creatively carving out their own destiny. Revolutionary implementation of our times demanded that the revolutionary ideology of the working class consist of guiding ideology which gives ideology, theory, and methods.

For the working popular masses to independently and creatively carve out their destiny as the master of the world, they should be given chuche-based opinion and view of the world and the self-consciousness of their position and role, correctly be taught with the inevitability, strategy, and tactics of the birth and development of revolutionary struggle for independence, as well as the methods to accomplish their responsibility and role as the master of revolution and construction.

Based on such a demand of our times, the chuche era, the great leader's revolutionary ideology was constituted with the systems of chuche ideology, chuche revolutionary theory, and chuche leadership methods.

By constituting the three major systems of ideology, theory, and methods, the revolutionary ideology of the great leader gives the working popular masses a great view of the world, and a powerful ideological and mental weapon for them to independently and creatively carve out their own destiny as the master of the world. It not only thoroughly clears the way for the struggle to achieve the historic cause of national, class, and human liberation, and nature, society, human remodeling, and completely achieve independence, but also teaches the leadership methods for the popular masses to maintain their position and accomplish the role as the master of revolution and construction.

The revolutionary ideology of the great leader has three major constituting systems of ideology, theory, and methods so that it gives perfect answers to all theoretical and implementation problems arising from the struggle for independence in our times. Here lies the historic value of the revolutionary ideology of the great leader as the leadership ideology, theory, and methods representing the chuche era.

The revolutionary ideology of the great leader is formalized by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il so as to add luster to the revolutionary ideology of the great leader as a great leadership ideology of our times, the chuche era, and to give the working popular masses an immortal revolutionary banner to complete the socialist and communist cause.

Following the leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, our people will complete to the end the socialist cause and chuche-oriented revolutionary cause by upholding the banner of the revolutionary ideology of the great leader.

Kim Chong-il Sends Thanks for Army-People Unity

SK2401053794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0457 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 24 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to the war veterans in Nangnang district of Pyongyang, teachers and students of the Pyongyang financial cadres school, employees of the Haeju City Commercial Administration Office in South Hwanghae Province, Chong Son-yo, secretary of the Primary Party Committee of the Potonggang district people's hospital of Pyongyang, and Yim Sin-ok, worker of Hamhung Restaurant, who set examples in assisting the People's Army.

The speakers at the meetings held to convey the thanks said that it is the sacred duty of citizens to love and assist the People's Army soldiers. But, we have the honor and happiness of receiving the thanks from the supreme commander, they stressed.

They evinced their determination to give more assistance to the People's Army and bring the traditional traits of army-people unity into fuller play.

Socialism Claimed as 'Superior' to Capitalism

SK2601120694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1119 GMT 26 Jan 94

["Way Out Is To Rebuild Socialism"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 26 (KCNA)—However desperately the imperialists and reactionaries may try, they can neither dampen the aspiration of people for socialism nor turn back the trend of times, declares NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today.

The article says:

All manner of contradictions peculiar to the capitalist system give rise to chaos and crisis in politics, the economy, ideology and morality in those countries where capitalism has been revived.

Such catastrophic situation in those countries is entirely attributable to the reactionary nature of socio-economic reforms that have brought the revival of capitalism.

Hence, the quicker the process of reform, the more serious crisis and chaos.

The only way out of the crisis in the countries where capitalism has been revived is to rebuild socialism.

Socialism is incomparably superior to capitalism.

Capitalism is an anti-popular society where exploitation of man by man prevails and a tiny handful of exploiting class lord it over, a corrupt society based on extreme egoism.

But, socialism is a genuine society for the people where the popular masses are masters of everything and everything serves them, a superior society based on collectivism.

If the basic principles of socialist construction had been maintained and the advantages of the socialist system brought into full play, frustration of socialism and revival of capitalism would not have taken place at all in some countries.

Grudge against the revival of capitalism is swelling up and aspiration for socialism growing strong among the people in those countries who have realised it through bitter experiences.

The imperialists and reactionaries are making every conceivable effort to check the revival of socialism.

This is a move to block the social progress of those countries and put the peoples of those countries under the permanent yoke of domination and subordination.

Daily Writes on Kim Il-song New Year Address

SK2401105194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 24 Jan 94

["Destiny of Motherland and Nation, Destiny of All Koreans at Home and Abroad"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 24 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today in a signed article quotes the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song as saying in his New Year address:

"The destiny of our motherland is immediately the destiny of our nation, as well as the destiny of our compatriots at home and abroad."

This teaching serves as a highly important guideline elucidating the ground and necessity for the entire compatriots in the North and the South and overseas to launch a nation-wide struggle for national reunification, rallied under the banner of the great unity of the whole nation, the article notes, and goes on:

The destiny of our motherland is immediately the destiny of our nation, as well as the destiny of the entire nation, because the independence of the country and the nation is a prerequisite to realizing the independence of the popular masses and the struggle for the independence of the country and the nation is immediately the struggle for independence of the popular masses.

As the life of everybody, a member of the nation, belongs to the life of the country and the nation, the independence of the country and the nation makes it possible to realize the independence of individuals.

The popular masses can successfuly carve out their destiny in conformity with their desire and demand only when the independence of the country and the nation is realized.

Independence of South Korea and the independent reunification of the country, this is the way for the complete realization of national independence in our country.

The destiny of our nation is closely linked with national reunification.

The reunification of our country is not a matter of ideology and system but a matter of national character as the matter of putting an end to the domination and interference of outside forces, completely realizing the sovereignty of the Korean nation and achieving national unity.

The entire compatriots at home and abroad should unite with one will to defend the independence of the country and the nation with their lives, linking their destiny with the destiny of the motherland and the nation.

Our fellow countrymen, who have lived for over 5,000 years as a homogeneous nation with tan gun as its father, are able to build a united state of the whole nation by means of confederation that can promote coexistence and co-prosperity, leaving the present two systems and two governments in the North and the South intact if they pool their wisdom and strength, giving precedence to national ideal.

The entire compatriots in the North and the South and abroad should unite as one, transcending the differences of idea and ideal, political views and religious belief under the banner of the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation and vigorously struggle to found a united state of the whole nation by means of confederation.

Daily Stresses Greatness of Party, Leadership

SK2401111994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1051 GMT 24 Jan 94

["WPK Is Great Party With Iron Will and Tested Leadership Ability"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 24 (KCNA)—The Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] led by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is a great party with iron will and tested leadership ability, stresses NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today.

The article quotes the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as saying:

"Our party is an invincible revolutionary party, which has performed immortal feats in accomplishing the revolutionary cause of chuche, enjoys unquestioned trust of the popular masses, is united as steel-like ranks and is possessed of rich experience and tested veteran leadership ability."

It further says:

The iron will and tested leadership ability of our party is clearly displayed first of all in confidently leading our people along the road of socialism, upholding the revolutionary banner of the chuche idea under any circumstances.

It is a steadfast faith and will of our party to carry the socialist cause to completion, holding aloft the banner of the chuche idea, neither hesitating nor taking a step back, whatever complicated situation may be created and whatever trial we may face. Drawing a proper lesson from the collapse of socialism in some countries and decisively refuting the abuses hurled by riffraffs at socialism, our party is vigorously advancing toward a bright future by displaying wisdom and bravery in turning misfortune into bliss. It has developed and completed the socialist idea of chuche and firmly armed the popular masses with it and strengthened the driving force of the revolution, the integral whole of the leader, the party and the masses, to resolve all the problems arising in the revolution and construction with its strength.

The iron will and tested leadership ability of our party in leading the socialist cause of our era to victory is also highly displayed in firmly defending the dignity of the country and the gains of the revolution, boldly meeting the challenge of the imperialists and reactionaries.

Last year, the moves of the imperialists and reactionaries to isolate, stifle and crush our Republic got more vicious than ever before, which carried the situation in our country to the extreme pitch of strain. When a touch-and-go situation was created in which a war might break out any moment, Comrade Kim Chong-il, our supreme commander, took a decisive step of declaring a semi-war state to the whole country, all the people and the entire Army and called upon all the people to meet the challenge of the enemy in the revolutionary spirit and militant stamina as was displayed in the grim fatherland liberation war. Thanks to this principled and resolute struggle of the party, our people and the officers and men of the People's Army could boldly meet the challenge of the enemy and smash his aggressive moves and honorably defend the dignity and security of the socialist motherland.

The iron will and tested leadership ability of our party is also displayed in vigorously leading the revolution and construction to a constant upswing with grand aspirations and ideal and without slightest stagnation and standstill.

It is our party's steadfast stand to continue the revolution till imperialism will have been wiped out and the victorious flag of socialism will be flying higher on this land. Hence, our party is pushing ahead with the three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural, keeping a tight hold on them, and is firmly defending the revolutionary principle, the principle of socialism, under whatever circumstances.

Unprecedented miracles are being wrought and innovations effected and grand monumental creations adding lustre to the era of the Workers' Party are rising up in great number in our country under the wise leadership of our party.

Today our party is exalting its pride of being a great party leading the socialist cause along an ever-victorious road with iron will and tested leadership ability entirely because it has the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il at its head.

KCNA Highlights Achievements in Fishing

SK2401110294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1034 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 24 (KCNA)—Korean fishermen are reporting remarkable achievements in fishing.

According to data available at the State Fisheries Commission, the January plan for aquatic products was fulfilled at 115 percent, of which fishes at 178 percent, on the 23rd of January.

In this period, the South Hamgyong Provincial General Bureau of Fisheries topped its fishing plan for the first half of the year and the General Bureau of Pelagic Fishing its first quarterly target.

The fisheries stations caught 40 to 50 tons of fish, 70 tons at maximum, per net by nimbly occupying the central fishing ground and applying advanced fishing methods.

KCNA Reports Increased Industrial Production

SK2501123794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1058 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—Working people across Korea are increasing production to register proud achievements this year, the first year of the period of adjustment.

The Kaechon coal mine is topping its daily quotas by 40 to 50 percent, concentrating efforts on tunneling to create an additional production capacity of two million tons by the end of April. The coal miners there have created several new cutting faces and are boosting production.

The pipeline transport station of the Kim Chaek iron and steel complex has lifted the daily transport of iron headings through the pipeline extending 100 kilometres from Musan and Chongjin by 50 percent entering this year over the daily average towards the end of last year.

The Pukchang thermal power complex increased electricity output by 30 percent as of January 24 as against that in the same period of the previous month.

Industrial establishments under the Ministry of Chemical Industry are registering signal achievements in the efforts to boost fertilizer production this year in which falls the 30th anniversary of the publication of the great rural theses.

Many units including the State Fisheries Commission and the North Phyongan Provincial Management Office of minor power stations beat their January targets ahead of schedule.

KCNA Reports on Development of New Ceramic Art

SK2501102294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1001 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA)—A new ceramic art more simple and effective than the old technique has been developed in Korea.

So far a mixture of four to six kinds of raw materials was baked at high temperature. But the new technique requires the baking of one kind of raw material at low temperature. The new method increases the kiln efficiency two or three fold.

In the past it took 12 to 14 hours to get powder of mixed materials, while the new technique requires less than eight hours.

The new method is favorable for transport because it relies on the raw material rich in different parts of the country. It also saves fuel, electricity and manpower considerably.

The porcelainware made by the new method is light, solid and low in absorption rate. When used as a building material, its life span is considerably lengthened.

The method has been developed by teachers and researchers of the geological department of Kim Il-song University and technicians of the Taesong ceramic factory.

New Botanical Gallery Built in Pyongyang

SK2401105394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 24 (KCNA)—A new botanical specimen gallery has been built in the Central Botanical Garden which is situated at the foot of scenic Mt. Taesong in Pyongyang.

The total floor space of the gallery is 2,000 square metres.

The gallery will permanently preserve hundreds of thousands of specimens including those taken from more than 2,800 plants presented by foreign heads of state and public figures to the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The gallery consists of a gift plant specimen room, a Korean plant specimen room, a world plant specimen room, a trunk piece and seed specimen room, a provincial plant specimen room, a dendrolite specimen room and an immersion specimen room.

It also has an automation gauge room for scientific and technical preservation of specimens and specimen lending and study rooms and research rooms.

At the gallery scientists and researchers will develop new varieties by comparatory analysis of plants of foreign countries and trace the course of the evolution of plants through fossil plants.

Rich materials for writing books will be available at the gallery.

The gallery will exchange plant specimens with many countries.

The botanical specimen gallery which will make a big contribution to the development of the country's botany will be opened soon.

South Korea

DPRK-IAEA Meeting Set for 25 Jan Not Held

SK2501231394 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2200 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Report by correspondent Cha Man-sun from Vienna]

[Text] The International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] and North Korea will hold a series of working-level contacts during this week in a bid to discuss a final-stage compromise to narrow the two sides' opinion difference over the inspection method and scope. Under a policy to complete the issue of resuming the inspections of North Korea's facilities as soon as possible, The IAEA is accelerating a final-stage compromise to remove stumbling blocks through a series of working-level contacts with North Korea or through the delivery of documents.

The IAEA did not hold a working-level contact with North Korea yesterday, 25 January. Instead it arranged the IAEA's position on the problems revealed at the 24 January working-level contact as an official document and delivered it to the North Korean side.

IAEA Spokesman David Kyd revealed that since the IAEA urged the North Korean side to accept full-scope inspections of the seven nuclear facilities on 19 January, opinion difference between the two sides has been somewhat narrowed, thus a little progress has been made. He stressed that he expects that if a series of contacts is held in the future, the stumbling block factor will be completely removed.

Spokesman Kyd's remarks are analyzed as while reaffirming the IAEA's position on full-scope inspections of the two key nuclear facilities, the IAEA is assuming a flexible attitude toward the working-level negotiations over the inspection method and scope.

In the meantime, diplomatic sources in Vienna pointed out that even though inspections can be conducted early if a final compromise succeeds, considering the recent North Korean Foreign Ministry statement, it is early yet to have an optimistic thought.

Officials 'Running Out of Patience' on IAEA Talks

SK2601083094 Seoul YONHAP in English 0804 GMT 26 Jan 94

[By Cho Se-hyon]

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 26 (YONHAP)—As talks between North Korea and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on nuclear inspection are making slower progress than expected, senior South Korean Government officials are expressing concern that the negotiations may break up.

Both the United States and South Korea had expected the North Korea-IAEA talks to proceed smoothly, if not rapidly, because of the hopeful note sounded by the North Korean-U.S. working level-contacts in New York last month. But as the North Korean-IAEA negotiations go nowhere session after session, senior U.S. and South Korean officials are running out of patience and becoming increasingly restless.

Reflecting their feelings, perhaps, Washington and Seoul urged Pyongyang in recent days to accept IAEA inspection of its nuclear facilities and warned that time is running out for North Korea.

South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu said Tuesday that a decision will be made in two to three weeks by the United States on whether it will hold dialogue with North Korea.

Han's remark, made at a public gathering, was seen by many as an indication that the situation has indeed become serious since Han represents the body of opinion that was counseling continued dialogue for a resolution of the North Korean nuclear issue.

The time frame of "two to three weeks" was apparently mentioned with the Feb. 21 IAEA Board of Governors' meeting in mind. The foreign minister must have been aware also of North Korean "dear leader" Kim Chong-il's birthday (Feb. 16) when he made the remark.

Han was understood to have hinted that the North Korean nuclear problem has to be brought to the United Nations Security Council unless IAEA inspection is carried out in two to three weeks.

Given the time for the IAEA to prepare for inspection, Han appeared to be stressing that North Korea and the IAEA could not keep holding fruitless negotiations for much longer.

Many questions are being asked in Vienna, Washington and Seoul as to why the North Korean-IAEA talks were not making any progress, but few clear answers were emerging.

Judging by the statements made by responsible officials so far, the main cause for disputes between Pyongyang and the IAEA stems from the fact that the United States and North Korea concluded their working-level contacts without firmly spelling out the type and scope of the IAEA inspection on seven reported North Korean facilities.

North Korea is said to be arguing with the IAEA, questioning the connection between the IAEA's demand for an inspection of all seven reported facilities and maintaining continuity for nuclear safeguards.

At any rate, no one is sure why North Korea is delaying its agreement with the IAEA as Pyongyang has nothing to gain by its actions.

The prevailing opinion among South Korean Government officials is that North Korea is reluctant to agree to the IAEA inspection because of "internal necessity," or because it wants to squeeze more concessions from the United States.

Others speculate that North Korea cannot afford to "use up all of its nuclear cards" by accepting IAEA ad hoc and routine inspections before it has managed to obtain a U.S. nod for the establishment of diplomatic ties between Pyongyang and Washington.

As for those who advance the theory of "internal necessity," they say North Korea might be taking its time to persuade hardliners, especially the military, to accept outside inspection.

By delaying negotiations with the IAEA, they say, Pyongyang probably wants to boast, both at home and abroad, that it did not succumb to foreign pressure and thus was able to obtain U.S. agreements to suspend the Team Spirit military exercise with the South and to hold a third round of high-level talks with Washington for improvement of bilateral relations.

Those who argue that North Korea does not want to use its nuclear card believe that Pyongyang is delaying its negotiations with the IAEA in order to wrench from it as many concessions as possible, while leaving unresolved questions for the third round of U.S.-North Korean high-level talks.

Although South Korean officials watching the developments are running out of patience, they could still be described as being "guardedly optimistic about the outcome of the North Korea-IAEA talks," for they know it is North Korea's style to always push an issue to the brink before making a dramatic turnaround at the last moment.

DPRK Nuclear Solution Said in Internationalization

SK2401042294 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 23 Jan 94 p 3

[Editorial: "The Nuclear Issue and 'North Korea's Internationalization'"]

[Text] North Korea and the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] have been holding discussions on the scope and method of nuclear inspection to confirm any changes in the status of North Korea's nuclear facilities [pukhan haekhyonhwang]. This is a precondition to holding the third round of talks between North Korea and the United States for resolving the nuclear issue.

In order to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue, the United States has insisted upon, first of all, the continuity of IAEA inspections; second, making North Korea accept inspections of its two unreported facilities at the third round of talks; and, finally, leading North Korea to abandon its nuclear policy through its internationalization.

Meanwhile, North Korea has tried to improve relations with the United States and other advanced capitalist countries to overcome difficulties in maintaining its own system. Towards that end, North Korea has tried to use its nuclear card to the utmost in optimizing relations with the United States and other advanced capitalist countries to the most of its abilities.

Given these conflicts of interest, unless North Korea changes its policy fundamentally, the North Korea-U.S. talks will likely be prolonged and North Korea's denuclearization will only be possible through North Korea's "perestroyka" [previous word in English].

Therefore, the short-term and tentative way to resolve the North Korean nuclear issue is to make every effort in negotiations to conduct thorough nuclear inspections, and the long-term and ultimate way is to make North Korea realize that embarking on a "road of internationalization" is a better way to maintaining its system than embarking on a "road of chuche-orientation" by formulating an international assistance program.

It is almost impossible for the current North Korean political leaders to abandon the "road of chuche-orientation" because this would mean the collapse of their system. However, insisting on the road of chuche-orientation in a world of internationalization, will only invite the danger of the collapse of the North Korean system. Therefore, to lead North Korea to pursue the maintenance of its system by carrying out a policy of internationalization, we must contemplate the formation of an international assistance program at some appropriate time in the future that can make North Korea see that in reality, "perestroyka" will help boost its system.

When our government's initiative and close cooperative system with the United States, Japan, and other advanced capitalist countries and international agencies results in an assistance program to accelerate North Korea's "perestroyka," we will then be able to realize our dream of denuclearizing the Korean peninsula.

Government Rejects Chondoist Move for N-S Contact

SK2601115194 Seoul YONHAP in English 1139 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 26 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government will not approve the move of South and North Korean Chondogyo [Chondoist] organizations to have a contact to discuss the possible joint sponsorship of ceremonies marking the centenary of the Donghak peasants revolution.

"Any visit to the South by North Korean Chondogyo officials and a South-North Chondogyo contact to discuss the visit are not permissible," a National Unification Board official said on Tuesday. He said such a move runs counter to the government policy of withholding all travels back and forth between the two sides due to the nuclear issue.

The central headquarters of Chondogyo, an indigenous religious organization, formally asked the unification board earlier in the day to send to the North its reply that they had accepted the North Korean Chondogyo proposal to have a working-level contact at Panmunjom on Feb. 3.

In a telephone message to the South's Chondogyo on Jan. 24, Yu Mi-yong, guidance chairman of the North Korean Chondogyo, offered to have a working-level contact at Panmunjom.

U.S. Asked Not To Grant Residency To Ex-Aide

SK2601063494 Seoul YONHAP in English 0616 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 26 (YONHAP)—Seoul has asked Washington not to extend the visa of former presidential aide Kim Chong-hwi nor grant him permanent residentship, Vice Foreign Minister Hong Sun-yong said Wednesday.

"We requested that the United States be prudent in extending his visa or giving him residentship in consideration of the fact that Kim once served in diplomacy and national security and that he is implicated in an irregularity," Hong said.

Washington formally confirmed Wednesday morning that Kim has applied for permanent residentship.

"It was a preliminary confirmation," he said. "It's preliminary because Washington has not given any details other than that Kim has applied, such as where or how he applied."

Seoul officials say they do not know Kim's whereabouts. The former top presidential secretary for diplomacy and national security left for the United States last April as a guest researcher at the Heritage Foundation.

He has virtually been in hiding since reports in Seoul that he took bribes from lobbyists selling arms to Korea for its Yulgok (military modernization) project.

Hong suggested Seoul could go beyond seeking U.S. refusal of residentship, commonly called a "green card," saying his ministry will have to consult with the Justice Ministry on whether to make additional requests to Washington.

Sources said that one possible request would be to have the Americans investigate Kim.

Washington officials told Seoul via the South Korean Embassy that they will take Kim's case into consideration and make a prudent decision after internal consultation.

"There are many legal aspects to consider," Hong said. "The decision will take time."

Residency Request by Former Official Examined

SK2601021094 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 25 Jan 94 p 2

[Article by reporter Chong Pyong-chin: "Three Ways for the United States 'To Deal With the Kim Chong-hwi Case'"]

[Text] Our attention is now focused on the U.S. Government's official response to the request for "political asylum" made by the former senior presidential secretary for foreign and national security affairs. It was learned that our government made unofficial contacts with the U.S. Government on several occasions in connection with former senior Secretary Kim Chong-hwi's "request for political asylum," but the contacts continued only a tug-of-war over the interpretation of his present status, whether he is a public official or a private individual.

On 22 January, however, our government requested the U.S. Government to give its official response to this matter and, at the same time, informed it of our position "opposing the granting of permanent residency" to him. The U.S. Government is expected to make a final decision on this matter sooner or later.

In this connection, an official concerned at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said on 22 January that "there have been 'complicated and delicate differences of views' between the ROK and U.S. Governments over the matter on whether former senior Secretary Kim Chong-hwi's request for permanent residency is a simple request to extend his private stay in the United States or an official request to seek political asylum," adding that "now that we have delivered our official position to the United States, the U.S. Government is expected to inform our government of its opinion and its measures."

There are three basic ways the U.S. Government can respond to our government. First, the United States can take considerably stern measures on former senior Secretary Kim, who is a figure of the Sixth Republic, in consideration of the friendly relations existing between Presidents Kim Yong-sam and Clinton. Second, the United States can protect him because he was a "witness" to the arms dealings between the ROK and the United States. Finally, the United States can regard this case as a matter of the Office of Immigration and refer it to this office, based on the experiences attained in the close-door negotiations held thus far with the ROK Government.

Stern measures by the U.S. Government against former senior Secretary Kim Chong-hwi are precisely what our government has openly demanded. His departure from the U.S. Heritage Foundation no longer allows him to stay in the United States legally. Therefore, he can no longer stay in the United States and has to leave even though his passport and visa are valid for four more years. As a result of this, the United States will have to face complaints from numerous "non-Americans" residing in the United States.

Relevant Foreign Ministry officials foresee no signs of the United States actively protecting former Senior Secretary Kim. Their reason is that if the United States take measures to protect former Senior Secretary Kim, it will stir up unpleasant memories in the ROK of the Kim Hyong-uk exile case and will directly spark not only diplomatic friction but also anti-U.S. sentiments, which have died down since the inauguration of the civilian government. In an attempt to prevent "discord" with the ROK Government while avoiding "discomfort" internally, the U.S. Government is expected to state openly that "it is difficult to intervene in the issue at the government level."

While noting through unofficial channels, the inevitability of assuming an "equivocal attitude," it has been learned that the U.S. Government, in fact has been hesitating due to our government's repeated calls against granting permanent residency to former Senior Secretary Kim on the grounds that "domestic public sentiment makes it difficult to accept." Nevertheless, the United States continues to explain that "rather than being subject to government approval, permanent residency is granted almost automatically when requirements are met."

At all events, the United States is now in a position of having to make a decision on former Senior Secretary Kim soon. It cannot continue to procrastinate on this "hot potato." It will be worth noting how our government, as well as the U.S. Government, handles this issue of former Senior Secretary Kim's "seeking refuge in the United States" because it is a very delicate one involving the domestic laws of the two countries, the international judicial cooperation treaty, and public sentiment in both countries.

ROK, U.S. Said Considering Deploying Patriots

SK2601070594 Seoul YONHAP in English 0644 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 26 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States are positively considering deploying Patriot missiles at American bases to counter North Korea's Scud missiles, Vice Foreign Minister Hong Sun-yong said Wednesday.

"Negotiations are under way between the two countries," Hong said. "As to the size and time of deployment, decisions will be made after further consultations."

South Korea will not be purchasing the Patriots, the vice foreign minister said, the anti-missile defense system will be part of the weaponry deployed by the U.S. Forces in Korea at their bases here.

Though officials deny it, the decision is likely to negatively affect the stalemated nuclear negotiations with North Korea.

"The threat of North Korean missiles is very real," Hong said. "We hope that the deployment (of Patriot missiles) will enhance South Korea-U.S. defense capability."

The idea of importing the Patriot system has been on the table ever since its celebrated success against Iraqi Scud missiles during Desert Storm, but some military experts are questioning its accuracy and effectiveness, insisting that the defensive missiles are already outmoded.

North Korea is believed to have upgraded the Soviet Scud in its Nodong-1 missile, making it nuclear-capable with a 1,000 km range.

The stalinist state sent shudders through South Korea and Japan when it successfully test-fired a Nodong missile last summer.

Hong said the negotiations will be handled by the defense ministries of the two countries.

U.S. Budget Cuts Threaten Kimhae Depot Survival

SK2501090494 Seoul YONHAP in English 0838 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] Washington, Jan. 25 (YONHAP)—U.S. defense budget cuts have caused a vital question of survival to Korean Air's aircraft repair and maintenance depot in Kimhae near Pusan, informed sources said on Monday. The U.S. Government formally informed Seoul in late December that it had decided to stop using Korean Air's Kimhae depot in the repair and maintenance of U.S. Air Force aircraft operating in the Pacific and the Far East.

The South Korean Government responded with a request that the U.S. Government reconsider the decision in view of security cooperation between the two countries, but it is unlikely that the U.S. Government will comply with the South Korean request because of the U.S. industry's lobbying for buy-American policy, sources said.

Korean Air built the depot in question in 1976 chiefly for the repair and maintenance of U.S. Air Force aircraft, as the U.S. Government, severing diplomatic relations with Taiwan for rapprochement with mainland China, wanted Korea to provide repair and maintenance services to its Air Force in the Pacific and the Far East. Until then Taiwan had provided the services. The depot, employing 700 workers, has once accounted for a maximum 75 percent of the turnover of Korean Air's aircraft and space department.

A source close to Korean air said that although some quarters of the U.S. Government want to continue using Kimhae depot for the U.S. Air Force in preparation for an emergency, it would be very hard for the U.S. Government as a whole to change its mind because it is under heavy pressure of the U.S. aircraft maintenance industry.

The U.S. Government is considering transferring the repair and maintenance services for U.S. Air Force aircraft in the Pacific and the Far East from Korean Air's Kimhae depot to an aircraft maintenance center in Georgia state which is now on the verge of bankruptcy.

Russian Official To Ask DPRK To Pay Debt

SK2501045294 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0200 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Report by NAEWOE News Agency]

[Text] (Yakovlev), director of the Korean peninsula affairs department in the Russian Foreign Ministry, revealed yesterday that from this year, Russia will make all efforts to prompt North Korea to pay back its debts.

In an interview with a Moscow broadcast yesterday, (Yakovlev) revealed that Russia would fully discuss with North Korea the issue of revising their treaty, including the issue of economic cooperation. In particular, he said that the issue of North Korea's debts which amounted to over three billion rubles in 1990, will be adjusted.

In addition, in connection with North Korea's nuclear issue, (Yakovlev) said that Russia absolutely opposes the artificial proliferation of nuclear weapons and opposes the presence of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula. He stressed that to prevent the presence of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula, all regulations, which have been reached between North Korea and the International Atomic Energy Agency, should be strictly observed.

Envoy to Russia Interviewed on Relations

SK2501134894 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 25 Jan 94 p 5

[Report by Pak Ui-chun on interview with Kim Sok-kyu, ROK ambassador to Russia, with unidentified reporters; date and place not given]

[Text] "I am sorry to see that the ROK public is negative and critical about Russia and it has a tendency to disdain Russia ever since the pending issues, including the economic cooperation loan, were brought into the fore after the fervor and bubbles of the early stage of amity burst."

Kim Sok-kyu, ROK ambassador to Russia, who made a temporary home visit on 22 January to discuss state affairs with his headquarters after 10 months in his position, said it is important to correctly perceive Russia and stressed that the ROK should further strengthen diplomacy toward Russia in the direction whereby Russia can be secured as a support force in reunification and security.

Following are questions posed to and answers given by Ambassador Kim:

[Reporter] How are things in Russia these days?

[Kim] After the new parliament was formed, the conservatives and communists launching the congress became more notable than expected because radical reformers had hurt various classes, such as the unemployed and beneficiaries of the pension system. It will take two years before the situation in Russia stabilizes. However, there will be no change in Russia's policy on the Korean peninsula.

[Reporter] How do you assess the Russian Government's recent proposal of supplying, and jointly developing and manufacturing weapons?

[Kim] The issue on the military exchanges between the two countries is an issue to be examined on a long-term basis and, in my personal opinion, it is worthwhile reviewing. The reason the Russian Government made such a proposal is that there is no other way for Russia to reimburse the economic cooperation loan.

[Reporter] How efficient are the Russian weapons?

[Kim] They should be deemed highly efficient, taking into account that Russia once competed with the United States as a superpower. Russia is currently selling weapons to various countries.

[Reporter] How about the issue of President Kim's visit to Russia?

[Kim] The Russian Government keeps asking when President Kim Yong-sam can visit Russia. However, I have not received any kind of a commitment from the government. If President Kim visits Russia this year, a year marking the 110th anniversary of the establishment of the ROK-Russian diplomatic relations, it will be a golden opportunity for both countries to revitalize relations.

[Reporter] What about the issue of compensating the bereaved families of victims of the Korean airliner?

[Kim] I have already asked the Russian Government for compensation. The Russian Government, however, seems to have the notion that more solid information should be provided by the United States to clarify the issue.

[Reporter] How big is the trade volume between the ROK and Russia?

[Kim] Last year, bilateral trade amounted to $1.9 billion, $0.6 billion in exports and $1.3 billion in imports. However, the trade volume is expected to reach up to $10 billion by early 2000 and Russia will become one of our biggest markets. In Russia nowadays, electronic goods manufactured by domestic companies such as Samsong, Goldstar, and Daewoo are selling like hot cakes. Due to the fact that Russia grants the Generalized System of Preference (GSP) to the ROK goods, they are relatively cheaper than Japanese goods and, consequently, are competitive.

PRC Urges Participation in North Development

SK2401045194 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 24 Jan 94 p 1

[By Kim Hyon-ho]

[Text] The ROK, China, and North Korea are now discussing the details of the ROK's technological and capital investment in the project of expanding North Korea's Najin Port and constructing a railroad.

Liu Baisong, president of the Northeast Asia Railway and Port Corporation, Ltd. of Jilin, China, came to the ROK on 20 January to discuss this matter. He said on 23 January: "The Najin Port development project is supposed to be jointly promoted by China and North Korea, and North Korea has expressed its position that it does not oppose ROK participation in the project in a joint venture with China." He also said that he had sounded out ROK enterprises like Daewoo and Samsung on their intention to participate in the project during his visit to the ROK and that they "had expressed their intent to actively participate."

China is also asking ROK companies to make joint investments in the construction of a 5 km-long borderline railway connecting China's Hunchun and North Korea's Hunyung.

The project of enlarging the No. 3 and No. 4 Piers of Najin Port and equipping them with modern facilities requires a total amount of $60 million, and China wants the ROK to invest approximately $30 million in the project.

North Korea hopes to begin construction in April, and China plans to start in June after confirming ROK participation.

Joint Industrial Committee With PRC Planned

SK2501075494 Seoul YONHAP in English 0701 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 25 (YONHAP)—South Korea and China have agreed to establish a joint industrial committee to promote economic cooperation between the two countries, it was reported Tuesday. The committee, to be made up of government officials and private businessmen, is a follow-up measure discussed at the summit between President Kim Yong-sam and Chinese President Jiang Zemin in Seattle last November. The committee will be formally launched in late March when President Kim pays an official visit to China.

Under the committee, the two countries will set up a subcommittee on automobile, electronic telephone switching system and aircraft industries, officials said.

In this connection, officials from the Economic Planning Board, Foreign, Trade, Industry and Resources and Communications Ministries will convene a meeting soon to select South Korean members of the committee. The Korean-side chairman of the committee is expected to be a vice or assistant minister.

With the establishment of the committee, the two countries will be able to form a systematic framework for medium- and long-term cooperation for the expansion of bilateral trade, one senior Foreign Ministry official said.

ROK To Double Foreign Investment Since NAFTA

SK2401134294 Seoul YONHAP in English 0719 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 24 (YONHAP)—South Korea decided Monday to double its foreign investment this year and gain a foothold in the American distribution market as a post-North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) trade measure. In the first meeting of trade and corporate officials since NAFTA took effect last month, the government decided to expand the foreign investment fund from 100 billion won last year to 200 billion won in 1994.

Officials said they hope to register the South Korea-U.S. Industrial Cooperation Foundation this month and raise 20 million U.S. dollars by 1997 to finance joint new technology development in nine areas chosen as main exports to the United States. This would include semiconductors, machinery, construction, aviation, telecommunications equipment, computers, medical equipment, environment facilities, power generation facilities and automobiles.

One of the concerns here on NAFTA has been the strengthened regulation on country-of-origin labeling. Officials said they expect makers of home appliances, automobiles and fabrics to use locally made parts due to the new regulations and decided to urge parts suppliers and manufacturing companies to jointly enter the North American market.

In case of color television sets, manufacturers must use locally made braun tube and printed circuit board in order to be counted as regional trade.

Officials said Korea's three major color television exporters—Samsung, Goldstar and Daewoo—have already advanced into Mexico and will establish both assembly and parts manufacturing lines there.

Korean car manufacturers will be urged to look into southern states as a new region of interest to maintain their hold on the American market, which has a relatively low 2.5 percent import tariff, officials said.

In fabric, the government wants yarn makers, fabric dealers and clothing companies to enter the market together, officials said.

To counter falling behind Mexico in price competitiveness due to NAFTA, the government plans to open group sales outlets by industry.

It also plans to operate both wholesale and retail outlets in areas with large resident Korean populations, including New York, Chicago and Los Angeles, the officials said.

'Anti-Dumping Attacks' Up Since GATT Conclusion

SK2401030694 Seoul YONHAP in English 0200 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 24 (YONHAP)—South Korea faces a shower of foreign anti-dumping attacks as the Uruguay Round accord, slated to take effect next year, includes shields against anti-dumping abuses, the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (KOTRA) said Monday.

Canada landed a preliminary dumping margin of 45.6 percent on Korean steel plate on Jan. 17 and as a result Tongkuk Steel Mill Co. has to make deposits equal to the amount for its exports to the North American country.

On Jan. 6, the Argentine Government said it would slap punitive anti-dumping tariffs on Korean-made men's shirts of under 4.95 U.S. dollars on its market at the free-on-board rate.

Mexico recently announced that it will continue investigation of Goldstar Co., Daewoo Electronics Co., Sonil Metal Co., and Hanil Precision Industries Co., which are suspected of exporting at between 5.15 percent and 55.47 percent less than fair prices.

Under preliminary dumping findings of between 6.77 percent and 29.16 percent on high-density polyethylene and between 11.24 percent and 17.39 percent on low-density items, the Taipei Government went into final screening of Korean exporters.

At complaints by local manufacturers, Australia embarked on a preliminary investigation into Korean and Singaporean PVC (polyvinvyl chloride) homopolymer earlier in the month.

Hanyang Chemical Corp., Lucky Corp., Goldenbell Co., and Samsung Chemical Industries Co. are under charges of dumping between 10 percent and 38 percent. The preliminary ruling is due sometime in April.

India, Korea's major synthetic resin buyer, is said to be preparing an anti-dumping attack on the Korean export.

Automakers Seek Ways To Sell in PRC Legally

SK2401024494 Seoul YONHAP in English 0215 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 24 (YONHAP)—Korean automakers, to cope with moves by the Chinese Government to curb illegal imports, are looking for ways to export vehicles to China legally. The Chinese administration on auto imports says that 1,346 Korean automobiles were sold through official channels for 14.1 million U.S. dollars in January-September last year, according to industry sources Monday.

In the nine months, the Chinese bought 58,660 Japanese vehicles, the highest figure, followed by Russian vehicles at 39,651, German at 33,774, French at 20,589 and American at 6,184. Italy placed low with 1,224 vehicles. The Korean share of the Chinese import market was 2.3 percent of the Japanese share and 21.8 percent of the U.S. share. The real number of Korean vehicles sold in China last year is assumed to be nearly 50,000 (new and used), the sources said.

The Chinese Government bans imports of completely assembled automobiles in principle but legally purchases nearly 200,000 a year with a 180 percent to 220 percent tax by barter or for official use. It is estimated that 500,000 to 600,000 foreign automobiles are imported by China through legal and illegal channels each year.

The Chinese Government partly allowed private dealers to import vehicles in January, lowered the tax to 80 percent minimum and gave a quotas by country. Since it has decided to exclude from the quotas nations continuing to export to the Chinese market through illegal channels, Korean automakers must find new ways to sell in China, a source said.

Foreign Technology Import Restrictions To End

SK2501014894 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 25 Jan 94 p 9

[By staff reporter Yi Chang-sop]

[Text] The government will scrap its restrictions on foreign technology inducement and allow local enterprises to import whatever foreign technologies at whatever prices from March 1.

The Ministry of Finance [MOF] said the government will not check the "quality of foreign technology and contents of contracts between importers and exporters of foreign technology" when it reviews reports for introducing foreign technology in Korea.

The government has sometimes blocked the influx of foreign technologies because of expensive royalties on foreign technology or their obsolescence.

It will also shorten the processing period for accepting foreign technology inducement reports to 10 days, compared with the current 30 days.

The Bank of Korea will no longer be an exclusive window for accepting reports from foreign investors in local industries and such banks as the Korea Development Bank and Industrial Bank of Korea will deal in foreign direct investment reporting services from March 1.

The MOF said other foreign exchange banks will be authorized to accept reports from foreigners on their investment plans here from July 1.

The diversification of banks accepting foreign direct investment reports is designed to help banks compete against each other to attract foreign investors. So far, the BOK has monopolized the business as the government wanted to "control" who invests in domestic industries.

Thus from July 1, local banks will be able to accept reports from foreign investors when their equity stakes are less than 50 percent or when they invest less than 3 million dollars in joint ventures in which their stakes exceed more than 50 percent.

The MOF said it will revise the enforcement decrees on the Foreign Capital Inducement Act (FCIA) next week for implementation from March 1.

The MOF said the revision of the FCIA enforcement decrees is to simplify foreign investment procedures, enhance transparency, ease rules and provide administrative services for foreign investors in Korea.

Under the new FCIA enforcement decrees, it will take only five days for foreign investors to get government approval for investing in Korean industries, compared with the current 30 days. Even when the MOF needs consultations with other government ministries for reviewing the applications, it will not take more than 15 days for international investors to get approval from Korea.

For projects that do not need government approval, foreigners can immediately initiate business in Korea as soon as they make a notification to Korea. Currently, it takes 20-30 days for foreign investors to make a report on their investment plans to the government.

The government will reduce its intervention in business diversification activities of foreign enterprises and joint venture firms following their investment in local industries, it said.

For example, foreign enterprises and joint venture firms will diversify into other projects, and easily sell and buy stocks to invest in or divest themselves from their Korean operations after they invested in local industries, the MOF said.

Foreigners which hold less than 10 percent equities stakes in local companies will not be subject to various restrictions.

Defense Ministry To Export Jets to Thailand

SK2401013894 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 24 Jan 94 p 2

[Text] It was learned on 23 January that the Defense Ministry will export about 10 F5AB fighter planes of the ROK Air Force to Thailand at the cost of from $1 to $1.5 million each. F5AB is an outmoded fighter plane model that was introduced from the United States late in the sixties. This is the first time the ROK has exported planes. The United States originally opposed the ROK's plan to export planes of this model, but has recently consented to it.

Defense Minister Interviewed on Military Issues

SK2401095194 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 23 Jan 94 p 5-6

[Interview with National Defense Minister Yi Pyong-tae by CHOSON ILBO senior social affairs desk reporter Yi Sang-chol, and reporters Ham Yong-chun and Kyong Yong-won—place and date not given]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] Did you not give a lecture-type speech using a chalkboard during a news conference immediately after your inauguration?

[Yi Pyong-tae] Yes, I did. Please interpret my actions as an expression of my "passion." I just did it to describe my intentions with precision and sincerity. There was no other purpose. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] What merits do you think you have that won you the appointment as defense minister?

[Yi] I do not know exactly. What I can tell you is that even after I was discharged from active duty, I continued to study national defense issues with the will and passion for reform, regarding it as my professional field. After I was placed on the reserve list, I realized that the military was not the whole world. While working as consul general in Honolulu and as director of the Office of Veterans Administration, I learned many things about world affairs. I think this was part of the merits for my appointment.

[Reporter] By how many years was President Kim Yong-sam your senior at Kyongnam High School, and when did you meet President Kim Yong-sam?

[Yi] President Kim was a graduate of the third class and I was a graduate of the 11th. So, I am eight years behind him. I first met him when I was chief of operation of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in 1992. When President Kim, then chairman of the Democratic Liberal Party, was inspecting frontline areas, I accompanied him because the deputy chief of the Joint Staff was on leave. Since President Kim rode the bus together with National Defense Committee assemblymen, I thought it was a good opportunity to explain the defense budget. So I did it with a portable speaker.

[Reporter] People say that after President Kim was elected, you acted as his "staff" person for military affairs.

[Yi] No. I was not in the appropriate position to do so. I was in the middle of the Pacific Ocean as consul general in Hawaii while he was in Sangdodong, Seoul.

[Reporter] What do you think about the position of defense minister?

[Yi] Just as a proverb says that the one who looks down the chessboard has a wider view of the game than the actual players, I came to face many practical restrictions and to realize difficulties of working-level officials.

[Reporter] Now that the investigation of the incident of shells imports fraud came to a temporary settlement and your report to Chongwadae [presidential office] has been completed, we think that you will now undertake your work at a full scale.

[Yi] The mission of defense minister is, above all, to protect the nation and people from a "miserable" war. A total of 1 million troops from both sides are still in confrontation with each other with a 155-mile Armistice Line in between them. The fire power has now increased by 100 times from that of the Korean War. If a war breaks out, everything that all the people have achieved with all their energy during the past 40 years will collapse. Therefore, our Army should assume a stance to prevent war by all means. As you know, the people in the North are unpredictable.

[Reporter] Some people say that since democratization was initiated, North Korea is not regarded as "the main enemy" in the troop training and information program in the military. Is this true?

[Yi] This has indeed delicate aspects. To say that North Korea is the main enemy may be somewhat excessive. However, the military should direct its main efforts on "preventing North Korea's provocation."

[Reporter] There are two different views: that North Korea is incapable of starting a war because of its economic difficulties and that it can start a war at any moment. This causes confusion among the people. What is your view?

[Yi] I think such controversy might have been prompted by the eccentric political system in the North. North Korea's gross national product is only one-tenth of ours. Therefore, North Korea's military power should also be regarded as such. However, the practical situation is quite the opposite. For example, although I cannot reveal all, I can tell you that the number of sorties made by North Korean air force planes and the number and scale of military mobilizations and maneuvers during the past three years far exceed ours. This situation has not changed even today. We should think that this is possible only under North Korea's eccentric system.

[Reporter] Do you think there is the possibility of a North Korean military provocation?

[Yi] Yes. There certainly is. I wish I could show you related materials including aerial photographs to prove this.

[Reporter] Have there been any indications of a military provocation from North Korea recently?

[Yi] There has always been such a possibility in the past. However, since Kim Chong-il was nominated as supreme commander of the military last March, there has been even a greater possibility. Last October, the "order of tonsure" was handed out to the entire Army, and all soldiers had their hair cut. Tonsure means a certain "determination."

[Reporter] What is your opinion of the North Korean nuclear issue and the Team Spirit exercise?

[Yi] North Korea must completely return to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and accept overall inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency. We will be ready to suspend the Team Spirit exercise, although it has nothing to do with the North Korean nuclear issue, so that the North-South dialogue can make progress. However, I would like to clearly say that if North Korea does not comply with them, we would have nothing to concede. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Will there be any large-scale personnel reshuffle within the military?

[Yi] No. There will be no such reshuffle. Only when stability is attained within their organization, can the soldiers be devoted to defense. Otherwise, they will turn their eyes, leveled at the North, to Seoul.

[Reporter] We understand that you are member of Hanahoe [private circle of military academy graduates]. When did you become a member?

[Yi] That is an old story. Let us not talk about this. I always did my best in any given situation during the past 33 years of military service. I will do so in the future, too. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] There is a rumor that you, Minister Yi, advised all high-ranking officers in the military who are Hanahoe members to voluntarily resign from active duty.

[Yi] The will for decision within the military should not be hovered. If one thinks it is difficult to contribute to the military any more, one should courageously resign from it.

[Reporter] Some people stress that young and capable officers, who became Hanahoe members without having volunteered to join the organization, should not be placed in a position of disadvantage.

[Yi] That is very sensitive issue. I intend to work out appropriate measures. [passage omitted]

Opposition Leader Kim Tae-chung Forms Foundation

SK2401133694 Seoul YONHAP in English 0627 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 24 (YONHAP)—Veteran opposition leader Kim Tae-chung hangs up the nameboard of his research institute Thursday and sets sail as captain of a ship that he is determined will provide the brainpower for Korean unification, democratization and Asia-Pacific peace. After leaving politics in 1992, Kim devoted himself to forming a "strictly-non-political" foundation while waving aside a cloud of rumors on his return to the political picture.

The KDJ (for Kim's initials) Peace Foundation has been in the public eye since Kim first spoke of it last year, not only because of the influence he has in the political world but also because of the list of political, religious, and scholastic bigtimers at home and abroad who willingly took part in the foundation.

Foreign advisers are former presidents Mikhail Gorbachev of the Soviet Union and Corazon Aquino of the Philippines, and former German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher. Advisers from home are Cardinal Stephen Kim Su-hwan of the Roman Catholic Church, the Ven. So We-hyon, head of the Chokye Order of the Buddhism, the Rev. Kang Won-yong, president of the Institute of Christian Academy, and Yi Tae-yong, president of the Family Law Counseling Institute.

The 21-man committee of consultants that will be deeply engaged in foundation activities, include poet Ko Un, Seoul National University President Kim Chong-un, Korea University President Kim Hui-chip, former Korea Broadcasting System General Director So Yong-hun, Yi Se-chung, president of the Korea Association of Lawyers, and former Vice Prime Minister Cho Sun.

Among the 10 foreign consultants are Moscow University President Viktor Sadovnichi; Selig Harrison, senior research fellow of the Carnegie Foundation of International Peace; Former U.S. Ambassador to Seoul James Lilley; Harvard University President Edward Baker; Former East German Prime Minister Lothar de Maiziere; Mushakoji Kinhide, chairman of the Japanese Council on International Affairs; and Smiya Mikiyo, an honorary professor at Tokyo University.

Directors of the board under Kim's chairmanship are his wife, Yi Hui-ho; Yi Mun-yong, dean of the graduate school of Kyongki University; Choe Yong-kun, a former member of the National Assembly; and Cho Sung-hung, a lawyer. Dr. Cho Yung-hwan, director of the Institute of Far Eastern Affairs, serves as secretary-general of the foundation. Eight young permanent researchers, who include six holders of political science doctorates and one of administration science, were selected after public screening and 18 professors were named non-permanent researchers.

The foundation was founded on capital of 3 billion won by selling real estate of Kim's wife and will financially depend on public patronage for future management. As it first official event, the foundation hosts an international seminar on Wednesday on topics of changes of the world order and democratization in Asia, prospects for inter-Korean relations, and assessment and challenge of the future.

John Dunn, a professor at Cambridge University; Na Chong-il, a professor of Kyonghee University; and former East German Premier Lothar de Maiziere will speak.

On Thursday, at the founding ceremony, Cardinal Kim and Aquino will make the opening speeches, and congratulatory messages from former Presidents Jimmy Carter of the United States and Gorbachev will be read. The foundation, located in a commercial building near Kim's house in Tongkyo-tong, has already agreed on partnership with the Gorbachev Foundation. Gorbachev has promised to preside over a seminar in Seoul and many Asian human rights and democracy leaders are lined up to visit Korea, a foundation spokesman said.

Kim is to tour Denmark, Norway and Sweden from Sunday to seek cooperation with peace institutes there.

Dissident Group To Dissolve, Form Legal Party

SK2501060494 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 25 Jan 94 p 31

[By reporter Choe Won-sok]

[Text] It has been learned that the League of South Korean Socialist Workers [Sanomaeng], which calls itself an independent [chasaengjok] socialist group and advocates radical revolutionism, which has caused the detention of many members, will dissolve of its own volition soon.

According to a high-ranking intelligence official on 24 January, "Sanomaeng has announced it will begin legal activities through advertisements in daily newspapers and interviews with magazines. It has been learned that there is a move among those who advocate the legitimate line to found a legitimate progressive party."

However, the official said, "Considering the fact that at the end of last year over 20 people were arrested for attempting to rebuild Sanomaeng in Cholla provinces, some remaining forces may insist on keeping the original Sanomaeng."

Since its foundation in November 1989, Sanomaeng, which claimed to be "independent Leninist," has evoked controversy in and outside activist groups by founding a clandestine party and advocating the line for reforming the political system through revolution. Its activities were actually suspended after the arrest of its executive members including Pak No-hae and Paek Tae-ung.

Dates Set for Presidential, General Elections

SK2501083194 Seoul YONHAP in English 0751 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 25 (YONHAP)—The ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] and the main opposition Democratic Party [DP] agreed Tuesday to hold the next parliamentary elections on April 14, 1996, and the next presidential election on Dec. 18, 1997. The agreement was reached at a meeting of six representatives from the two parties on legislation of an omnibus election law.

Under the agreement, the presidential election will be held on the first Thursday from 70 days before the expiration of the term for the incumbent president.

The general elections and elections for local autonomous legislature and for chiefs of local governing bodies will be held on the first Thursday from 50 days before the expiration of the incumbents.

According to current laws, elections for local autonomous legislature and chiefs of local autonomous administrations should be carried out between Feb. 27, 1995 and May 21, 1995. But if political parties agree to hold all four elections on the same day, the date for local elections would be specifically mentioned in an additional clause of the election law.

With regard to election campaign periods, the two parties could not work out agreement.

The DLP wanted 21 days for presidential campaign and 15 days for other elections, while the DP called for 25 days for president and 17 days for parliamentary and local elections. Because of the disagreement, the dates for by-elections and reelections were not fixed.

The two parties will begin to discuss laws on political funds Wednesday and Thursday.

Businesswoman Ordered Arrested on Fraud Charges

SK2401140994 Seoul YONHAP in English 1028 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 24 (YONHAP)—The Seoul Prosecution on Monday afternoon placed under arrest Chang Yong-cha on charges of fraud and violating the bad check control law. The prosecution charge said Chang last October illegally withdrew from the Apkujong branch of the Seoul Trust Bank 3 billion won belonging to Ms. Ha Chong-im without the depositor's permission. Chang is also suspected of cheating 7.75 billion won out of the Sampo Mutual Trust Fund with the false promise of giving the fund a large deposit. The charge also said that when she was heading Yupyong Corp. as its chairwoman last October, the corp. issued a 500-million-won note but failed to honor it.

A law stipulates that a person found guilty of fraud involving more than 5 billion won is to be given a term of five years to life. Besides, she had five years and two more months to serve when she was paroled in 1992 from prison. She was serving a 15-year term over a 1982 financial scandal.

Meanwhile, the Justice Ministry on Monday afternoon retracted the parole granted to Chang in 1992, obliging her to serve out the remaining term.

A ministry official said that by law a parole may be cancelled if the parolee fails to behave properly or engages in abnormal conducts. "We have cancelled her parole upon she was arrested," the official said.

Government To Recruit 100 Scientists From Abroad

SK2401134994 Seoul YONHAP in English 0738 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 24 (YONHAP)—The Science and Technology Ministry will invite nearly 100 distinguished Korean or foreign scientists from abroad to visit Korea this year to teach Koreans advanced science and develop standards, a ministry spokesman said Monday. Korea has difficulties because advanced countries are reluctant to transfer sophisticated technologies for fear of the so-called boomerang effect. The ministry will invite scientists with doctorates and more than five years of research experience, but will waive its standards for scientists with remarkable achievements on a global scale.

The scientists will be given air fares, moving costs in addition to their salaries, which are higher than they are receiving in their countries of residence. The ministry hopes to develop the level of science and research under momentum of internationalization, the spokesman said.

Burma

Ne Win En Route to Switzerland for Health Checkup

BK2501002094 Hong Kong AFP in English 1704 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Rangoon, Jan 24 (AFP)—Former Burmese leader Ne Win left Rangoon for Switzerland over the weekend for a health checkup, according to sources close to the family. General Ne Win, 84, was accompanied by his daughter Sander Win, and the family left here for Singapore Saturday on a special aircraft and is expected to then catch an international flight to Switzerland, sources in the Burmese capital said Monday. Ne Win last left the country in April 1988, three months prior to his resignation as chairman of the ruling Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP). This trip is expected to last for two weeks, it said. There has been no official confirmation of the trip.

Ne Win in Singapore

BK2501071694 Hong Kong AFP in English 0702 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] Singapore, Jan 25 (AFP)—Burmese strongman General Ne Win is in Singapore for medical treatment, a Burmese embassy spokesman said here Tuesday. Ne Win was seeking treatment for his eyes and teeth, the spokesman said, adding he did not know the health condition of the former head of state nor which hospital he was in.

"He is here on a private visit. We don't even know when he arrived," he said. A Singapore foreign ministry spokesman said he understood that Ne Win was on a private visit.

Deputy Foreign Minister Returns From India

BK2601055794 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 0430 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] U Nyunt Swe, deputy minister of foreign affairs, returned to Yangon [Rangoon] by air last night after visiting India at the invitation of the Indian Government's External Affairs Ministry. The deputy foreign minister was welcomed at the airport by directors general and officials concerned from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Gopalaswani Parthasarathy, Indian ambassador to Myanmar [Burma]; and Indian Embassy officials.

Rangoon Mayor's Speech at 15 Jan USDA Rally

BK2601093994 Rangoon THE NEW LIGHT OF BURMA in English 16 Jan 94 p A

["Opening Address" by Rangoon Mayor U Ko Lay, chairman of the mass rally and member of the USDA secretariat, at the mass rally held in Rangoon on 15 January]

[Text] Esteemed people: I would like to extend my best wishes for physical and mental wellbeing of the mass of people wholeheartedly attending the mass rally sponsored by the Union Solidarity and Development Association [USDA].

We have strong desire for realization of the noble and genuine objectives of the recently-founded USDA. Active participation of the entire mass of people is now essential for realization of the following five objectives of the USDA;

1. Non-disintegration of the Union,
2. Non-disintegration of national unity,
3. Perpetuation of sovereignty,
4. Promotion and vitalization of national pride, and
5. Emergence of a prosperous, peaceful, and modern Union.

These five objectives, in fact, reflect the basic welfare for the union nationals. It is therefore essential for the entire mass of people to wholeheartedly support the USDA and to earnestly take part for realization of the five objectives.

All patriotic Myanmar [Burmese] people desire perpetuity of the union, consolidation of unity among union nationals, and perpetuation of sovereignty. As we all encountered and overcame suffering and misery owing to the loss of sovereignty, we all must safeguard our sovereignty sacrificing our lives not to fall into servitude again. The fourth objective of the USDA—promotion and vitalization of national pride—is specially essential for gradual fading away of the spirit of patriotism is inclined to incapacitate safeguarding of sovereignty. The entire mass of people must therefore cultivate the spirit of patriotism to a new height.

Myanmar nationals cannot help speaking in praise of the USDA which is endowed with the objectives for emergence of an affluent modern nation. As all know, today, the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] is laying down foundations for emergence of an affluent modern nation. We all are to congratulate the SLORC for its farsighted efforts for all-round national development spending tens of millions of money in the education and health sectors, construction of roads, bridges, railroads, airports, parks, gardens, and various buildings. That is why, I would like to urge you to decide to wholeheartedly uphold the five objectives of the USDA.

I would like to emphatically urge the entire mass of people to cooperate and provide support for consolidation and extensive formation of the USDA to be able to stand tall and firm as national front that will organize national movement with noble and genuine objectives.

Esteemed people: The National Convention, which is comparable to the architect for emergence of a new democratic state in Myanmar history, has been held since 9 January 1993. On 16 September 1993, the national convention plenary session laid down 104 basic principles for formulating state fundamental principles to be incorporated into the state constitution.

Every observer will find vividly that all these 104 basic principles are mirror of the welfare of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] and union nationals in all angles at present and in future. Evidently, 39 of the 104 basic principles are found to be laid down as fundamental principles. They are:

1. Non-disintegration of the union,
2. Non-disintegration of national solidarity,
3. Perpetuation of sovereignty,
4. Flourishing of a genuine multiparty democracy system,
5. Further burgeoning of the noblest and worthiest of worldly values namely justice, liberty, and equality in the state,
6. For the tatmadaw [defense services] to be able to participate in the national political leadership role of the state,
7. The state is constituted by Pyidaungsu [Union] system,
8. The state practices genuine multiparty democracy system,
9. The state economic system shall be market economic system,
10. The head of state is the president of the state,
11. Sovereign power of the state is derived from the citizens and is in force in the whole country,
12. The three branches of state power, namely—legislative, executive, and judicial, are separated as much as possible and exert reciprocal control, check, and balance among themselves,
13. The three branches of state power so separated are distributed among Pyidaungsu, regions, states, and self-administered areas,
14. The legislative power of the state is distributed among the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw [parliament], Region Hluttaws, and State Hluttaws; legislative power stipulated by the constitution shall be distributed to self-administered areas,
15. The chief executive of the state is the president of the state,
16. The executive power of the state is distributed among the administrative organs of Pyidaungsu, regions and states; self-administrative power shall be distributed to self-administered areas as stipulated by the state constitution,
17. The judicial power of the state is distributed among Pyidaungsu Taya Hluttaw [Supreme Court], Region Taya Hluttaw [Region High Court], State Taya Hluttaw [State High Court] and law courts at different levels including law courts of self- administered areas,
18. The tatmadaw is strong, modern, and must be the sole existing tatmadaw,
19. The defence services commander-in-chief is the supreme commander of all armed forces,
20. All persons born of parents both of whom are nationals are citizens; all persons who have become citizens in accord with law on the date the state constitution comes into force are citizens; and citizenship, naturalization, and revocation of citizenship shall be prescribed by law,
21. Every citizen shall enjoy rights of equality, rights of liberty and rights of justice etc. as prescribed in the state constitution,
22. The state shall help for development, consolidation, and preservation of national culture,
23. The state is the ultimate owner of all the land, and natural resources above and below the ground, above and beneath the waters, and in the atmosphere within its territorial boundary,
24. The state shall enact necessary laws to supervise economic forces' extraction and utilization of state-owned natural resources,
25. The state practices independent, active, and non-aligned foreign policy, aims at world peace and friendly relations with nations, and upholds the principles of peaceful coexistence among nations,
26. The state never initiates any act of belligerence against another nation,
27. No foreign troops are permitted to be deployed within the borders of the union,
28. The state shall help promote solidarity, mutual amity, and respect and mutual help among the national races,
29. The state shall enact necessary laws to protect the rights of the peasantry,
30. The state shall enact necessary laws to protect the rights of workers,
31. The state shall help promote the interests of the intellectuals and intelligentsia,
32. The state shall strive to imbue youths with strong and dynamic patriotic spirit, correct way of thinking and the five noble strengths,
33. The state shall care for mothers and children, orphans, fallen tatmadaw servicemen's children, the old and the infirm, and the disabled,
34. The state shall arrange for disabled tatmadaw servicemen to be able to make a respectable livelihood and get free vocational training,
35. The state shall earnestly strive to improve education and health of the people,
36. Every citizen is equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess and practice religion subject to public order, morality or health, and to the other provisions of the state constitution,
37. Every citizen shall have the right to vote and to stand for election according to law,
38. Voters concerned shall have the right, in accord with provisions of the state constitution, to recall elected people's representatives, and,
39. The state shall enact necessary law for systematic formation of political parties for flourishing of genuine multiparty democracy system.

In addition to these 39 basic principles, the remaining 65 are also of importance in respective chapters. We must, therefore, treasure the 104 basic principles for formulating principles as firm foundation for our much desired new democratic state.

All of us are responsible for protecting these 104 basic principles against any obstruction and deviation.

It is encouraging that these 104 basic principles were laid down as much as possible to reflect the six objectives of the National Convention:

1. Non-disintegration of the union,
2. Non-disintegration of national solidarity,
3. Perpetuation of sovereignty,
4. For a genuine multiparty democracy system to flourish,
5. For further burgeoning of the noblest and worthiest of worldly values namely justice, liberty, and equality, and,
6. For the tatmadaw to be able to participate in the national political leadership role of the future state.

All desire to safeguard the basic principles for formulating principles without losing sight of them and wish the national convention success after procuring detailed suggestions when it resumes.

Esteemed people: Now is the time for all nationals to make utmost efforts for national development and emergence of an affluent modern nation accepting it as a national task.

As the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] is based on consolidated, united tatmadaw, it is practically and effectively striving for the welfare of the state and the people in conformity with its fine traditions. In the present era of changing the economic, social, and political spheres, it is essential for the entire mass of people to actively take part in their respective roles zealously and intensively. Peasants have to strive for boosting production of quality crops and workers on their part have to prevent loss and wastage and be free from graft while making concerted efforts for boosting production of their factories and mills. All are urged to maintain roads and bridges, dams and reservoirs, schools, hospitals, parks and gardens, and buildings built by the state in various parts of the country.

So also, I would like to urge the entire mass of people to participate actively in the state's short-term and long-term projects for building a modern, developed country.

As the saying "Make hay while the sun shines" goes, it is opportune for armed groups to abandon their incurred stand and return to the legal fold, and to join hands with the state in all round development tasks.

The top national objective of the SLORC is "Our three main national causes". It is essential for non-disintegration of the union, non-disintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of sovereignty. Like the Myanmar [Burmese] saying "If the cattle are scattered the tiger seizes them", disunity among union nationals is the opportune state for neocolonialists and the state and the people may suffer low.

All nationals have to uphold and cherish the fine traditions of the forefathers who defended the state against the dangers through unity among national races and lived through weal or woe. Now it is time to promote and vitalize these fine traditions of our forefathers.

From this mass meeting, all armed groups are urged to accept the invitation of the SLORC and return to the legal fold.

Esteemed people: The Union of Myanmar [Burma] is an independent and sovereign state. As all know, Myanmar had to strive hard in national freedom battles for over a hundred years to become an independent state. In conformity with an independent, sovereign state, Myanmar always upholds the principles of peaceful coexistence among nations.

Governments of the Union of Myanmar have always taken a constructive stand in international affairs and supported efforts for world peace, prevention of outbreak of wars, and general and total disarmament. It is undeniable that Myanmar has never intended and attempted to work against the interests of any other country. Myanmar expects reciprocal, sincere relations from every nation.

Under prevailing political condition, the neocolonialists have been making false allegations against Myanmar with the aim of enabling their axe handles [henchmen] to gain power. The traitor axe handles, who have dealings with neocolonialist groups on economic grounds, have cooked up stories to tarnish the dignity of Myanmar. These are the acts to ignore and insult the sovereignty of our state.

It is human nature that a person or an organization or a nation is liable to do good or bad. Under unavoidable circumstances, strength is applied in some matters. Bitter quinine has to be used to banish malaria though one knows it is too bitter. Similarly, there are restrictions on the rights of freedom to ensure prevalence of peace and tranquillity and for non-disintegration of national unity. As the SLORC strives for prevalence of peace and tranquillity and law and order, crime has diminished considerably.

Every educated person understands that for flourishing of genuine democracy, the state is laying down firm foundation for the community.

Esteemed people: In conclusion, I would like to emphatically urge all patriotic nationals at this mass rally sponsored by the Yangon [Rangoon] Division Union Solidarity and Development Association [USDA];

—to support the 104 basic principles laid down by the National Convention,
—to uphold the five objectives of the USDA,
—for the armed groups to return to the legal fold and actively take part in all round national development tasks,

—to prevent subversions at home and abroad that would disrupt perpetuation of sovereignty,
—to strive hard for emergence of affluent nation as a national task, and,
—to make concerted efforts for consolidation of Union Solidarity and Development Associations.

Radio, TV Report on Rallies

BK2401043094

[Editorial Report] Since 15 January, Rangoon radio and television have carried a series of live and recorded reports on "mass rallies" held throughout Burma by the Union Solidarity and Development Association [USDA]. According to the radio, USDA members, departmental officials and public service personnel, workers, peasants, fire service reserves, members of the Literature and Periodicals and Theater Associations, athletes, local people, students, and members of local Red Cross brigades have been among those participating in the rallies.

Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese at 1330 GMT on 15 January carries a 37-minute report on a rally held by the Union Solidarity and Development Association of Rangoon Division on 15 January at Aung San Stadium. The rally was carried live on Burmese television and radio.

According to the radio, the rally was attended by 110,000 people, including USDA members from four districts of Rangoon Division and members of the public. Those present "unanimously" endorsed the six motions that were put forward at the meeting: "Fully support the 104 basic principles laid down by the National Convention; Solemnly support the five objectives of the USDA; Urge the armed organizations in the jungle to give up the policy of armed struggle and cooperate in working for the development and prosperity of the Union; For the indigenous people to safeguard national sovereignty from internal and external threats; For all indigenous people to undertake as a national duty to develop the Union into a peaceful, modern, and prosperous state; and To assist in strengthening the USDA."

U Ko Lay, secretary of the USDA and mayor of Rangoon, delivered an opening address at the rally, explaining the significance of the USDA's five objectives: nondisintegration of the Union; nondisintegration of national unity; perpetuation of sovereign powers; promotion of patriotism with the objective of enhancing national pride; and national development and the emergence of a peaceful, modern, and prosperous nation. He also explained the need for the people to implement these objectives. U Ko Lay noted the people's support and praise for the State Law and Order Restoration Council's [SLORC] national development endeavors and the work being done by the National Convention. He enumerated the 39 basic principles laid down by the National Convention, saying the people have a duty to defend these principles.

U Ko Lay said the SLORC—which is based on the united Defense Services—is working effectively for social, economic, and political development and the emergence of a modern state. He also urged the organizations in the jungle to return to the "legal fold." Continuing, he explained Burma's foreign policy and actions as well as the subversive activities of the "neocolonialists and their local henchmen," urging the public to safeguard the country's sovereignty.

In conclusion, he called on the public to support the 104 basic principles laid down by the National Convention and support the USDA's five objectives. He called on the jungle-based organizations to give up the armed struggle, cooperate in working for the development of the union, and safeguard the country from external and internal threats. He called on all indigenous people to undertake the development of the union and the emergence of a peaceful and modern state as a national duty, and to strengthen the organization of USDA.

Radio Burma, in its 1330 GMT newscast on 17 January, carries a 23-minute report on a rally held by the Mandalay Division USDA on 17 January. The rally, attended by 200,000 people and carried live on Burmese television, "unanimously" passed the six resolutions. U Than Aung, general secretary of the USDA Central Executive Committee and cooperatives minister, addressed the rally.

The following are the other USDA rallies reported by Radio Burma:

—On 17 January, a rally in Taunggyi, Shan State, was attended by 180,000 people. U Khin Maung Thein, secretary of the USDA and energy minister, addressed the rally. (Rangoon Radio, 1330 GMT on 18 January)
—On 18 January, a rally in Bassein was attended by 270,000 people from various townships in Irrawaddy Division. U Soe Tha, executive member of the USDA and minister of post and communications, addressed the meeting. (Rangoon Radio, 1330 GMT on 18 January)
—On 19 January, a rally in Kengtung, Eastern Shan State, was attended by 202,000 people. U Khin Maung Thein addressed the rally. (Rangoon Radio, 1330 GMT on 19 January)
—On 19 January, a rally in Bhamo, Kachin State, was attended by 55,000 people. U Win Sein, USDA executive committee member and minister of rail transport, addressed the rally. (Rangoon Radio, 1330 GMT on 19 January)
—On 20 January, a rally in Pegu, Pegu Division, was attended by 120,000 people. The rally was addressed by U Pan Aung, USDA executive committee member and secretary of the Rangoon Development Committee. (Rangoon Radio, 1330 GMT on 20 January)
—On 20 January, a rally in Meiktila, Manadalay Division, was attended by 167,000 people. U Than Aung, general secretary of the USDA, addressed the rally. (Rangoon Radio, 1330 GMT on 20 January)

—On 20 January, a rally in Henzada, Irawaddy Division, was attended by 260,000 people. U Soe Tha addressed the rally. (Rangoon Radio, 1330 GMT on 20 January)

—On 21 January, a rally in Lashio, Shan State, was attended by 217,000 people. U Khin Maung Thein addressed the rally. (Rangoon Radio, 1330 GMT on 21 January)

—On 21 January, a rally in Tavoy, Tenasserim Division, was attended by 120,000 people. U Thein Sein, member of the USDA Central Executive Committee and deputy minister of information, addressed the rally. (Rangoon Radio, 1330 GMT on 21 January)

—On 21 January, a rally in Sagaing, Sagaing Division, was attended by 130,000 people. U Win Sein addressed the rally. (Rangoon Radio, 1330 GMT on 21 January)

—On 22 January, a rally in Toungoo, Pegu Division, was attended by 224,000 people. U Pan Aung addressed the rally. (Rangoon Radio, 1330 GMT on 22 January)

—On 22 January, a rally in Magwe, Magwe Division, was attended by 221,204 people. U Soe Tha addressed the meeting. (Rangoon Radio, 1330 GMT on 22 January)

—On 22 January, a rally in Shwebo, Sagaing Division, was attended by 120,000 people. (Rangoon Radio, 1330 GMT on 22 January)

—On 23 January, a rally in Loikaw, Kayah State, was attended by 99,000 people. U Khin Maung Thein addressed the meeting. (Rangoon Radio, 1330 GMT on 23 January)

—On 23 January, a rally in Monywa, Sagaing Division, was attended by 180,000 people. U Win Sein addressed the rally. (Rangoon Radio, 1330 GMT on 23 January)

At each of these rallies, the radio reports, the six motions were "unanimously" approved.

Editorial Praises USDA Rallies

BK2601110394 Rangoon THE NEW LIGHT OF BURMA in English 16 Jan 94 p 6

[Editorial: "To protect and serve the nation"]

[Text] The Union Solidarity and Development Association [USDA] was formed and registered as a social organization with the ministry of home affairs on 15 September 1993.

It emerged to serve the needs of the times. If we are to prepare both the young and the old alike for their future tasks once the democratic system starts functioning full swing, we will have to prepare them for it. With that in mind, the leadership launched this social organization with the noble aims of working for the non- disintegration of the union, non-disintegration of national unity, perpetuation of sovereignty, promotion and vitalization of national pride, and emergence of a prosperous, peaceful, and modern union.

These lofty aims are worthy of being upheld and transformed into reality for they concern our wellbeing and our future. The youth in any nation are gregarious, sociable, and outgoing. To nurture them, to harness their positive traits, they must be given the benefit of some form of guidance. From young, they get parental guidance and also at school. However, they must be able to join organizations with extra-curricular activities, taught trades useful to themselves and to others.

In the aftermath of the chaos and anarchy of the late '80s, the social organizations could not absorb the bulk of youths enthusiastic to join. Hence the need for one that would cater to their desires. That the authorities had devised a way for them to identify themselves with a distinctive organization came as a boon and at an opportune moment.

The State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], which has been making preparations for retransfer of power to the rightful people, took the necessary measure to see to the emergence of the kind of organization they very much need. Members who are 10 and above, regardless of sex, class, creed or faith, will be able to get together for a common cause—that of protecting and serving the motherland.

Both minors designated as junior members and adults designated as senior members, will be involved in nation-building tasks. All members are to swear their allegiance to the nation under the Four Oaths, observe an 11-point Code of Conduct, and live up to 14 Duties and Responsibilities, which means they will be able to prove themselves worthy of identity with the union.

The mammoth rally that was held at Aung San Stadium yesterday was one of a kind, for it brought together a merry mix of students, teachers, and people from other walks of life.

More rallies are coming up. They will endorse the USDA and help strengthen the nation's chances of seeing peace and progress.

Melbourne Reports on Mass Rallies, Peace Pact

BK2601024794 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0100 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Hundreds of thousands of people are reportedly being forced to attend mass rallies throughout Burma organized by the country's military junta. Critics say the rallies, which have been held in the name of the junta's new political front, the Union Solidarity and Development Association [USDA], are being manipulated by the regime to legitimize its control on politics. The report coincides with news that the second biggest rebel army is due in the capital, Rangoon, next month to sign a cease-fire agreement with the military government.

Evan Williams says the deal was to end 30 years of insurgency by Kachin fighters in Burma's far north.

[Begin Williams recording] Kachin mediators in the state capital say the delegation is due in Rangoon to ratify a cease-fire reached late last year. It is an important psychological victory for the junta on the brink of similar talks with all other major ethnic insurgent groups and it will be held up to a critical world as progress toward peace in Burma. Ethnic groups have been promised a role in drafting the new constitution and some economic and legislative autonomy, but both sides remain armed and critics warn the constitution is already being dominated by the junta's aim to retain power. [end recording]

Eight National Convention Groups Hold Meetings

BK2201111394 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 21 Jan 94

[Text] Meetings of the eight national convention delegate groups were held at the respective meeting halls at the Kyaikkasan Grounds in Yangon [Rangoon] at 1000. At these group meetings, the alternate chairmen and reserved chairmen explained the details of the chapters on the state, the structure of the state, and the head of state. These details were pointed out in the speeches given by the chairman of the National Convention Convening Commission [NCCC] and the chairman of the National Convention Convening Work Committee [NCCWC] at the plenary session of the National Convention held at the Central Meeting Hall in the President's House compound on Ahlone Road on 18 January.

The delegate group representing the national races held its meeting at the Meeting Hall No. 1 at 1000. At the meeting, Alternate Chairman U Mahn Ohn Maung from Karen State and Reserved Chairman U Tin Myint explained the main points in the speeches by the chairman of the NCCC and the chairman of the NCCWC. Then the meeting decided that the reports, which are to be prepared and discussed by the delegates, have to be presented to the panel of chairmen on 26 January if they are ready. The meeting ended at 1030.

The delegate group representing the peasants held its meeting at Meeting Hall No. 7 at 1000. At the meeting, Alternate Chairman U Thein Lwin from Irrawaddy Division discussed the same subjects above and said the delegates have to present the reports and hold discussions within the framework of the six objectives of the National Convention. The meeting decided to hold the next group meeting at 1000 on 31 January. The meeting ended at 1015.

The delegate group representing workers held its meeting at Meeting Hall No. 6 at 1000. At the meeting, Alternate Chairman U Shwe Than from Yangon Division said the points explained in the speeches by the chairman of the NCCC and the chairman of the NCCWC will be very useful. He also said the delegates have to hold detailed discussions within the framework of the six objectives of the National Convention during the chapter by chapter discussions on the state, the structure of the state, and the head of state chapters. The framework is the policy laid down by the plenary session of the National Convention and they provide procedures concerning the convening of the National Convention. He said the reports have to be submitted no later than 25 January and the meeting will reconvene on 26 January. The meeting ended at 1015.

The delegate group representing the intelligentsia and technocrats held its meeting at the Meeting Hall No.3 at 1000. At the meeting, Alternate Chairman Rector U Aung Than gave explanations on the state, the structure of the state, and the head of state. He said the reports have to submitted to the panel of chairmen on the morning of 26 January. The meeting decided to hold the next meeting at 1000 on 27 January. The meeting ended at 1020.

The delegate group representing public service personnel held its meeting at Meeting Hall No. 8 at 1000. At the meeting, Alternate Chairman U Tun Shwe of the Ministry of Labor and Reserved Chairman Colonel Thaik Tun gave explanations on the state, the structure of the state, and the head of state. Brigadier General Win Hlaing of the Ministry of Defense Services, U Win Zaw Nyunt of the Ministry of Industry-1, U Than Aung of the Ministry of Energy, U Tun Aung of the Ministry of Construction, U Aung Min of the Yangon City Development Committee, and U Ko Ko Gyi of the Office of the President explained that the delegates may either write, submit, or present the reports individually or as a group. The meeting ended after the chairman's closing address.

The delegate group representing other invitees held its meeting at Meeting Hall No. 2 at 1000. At the meeting, Alternate Chairman U Wan Tin briefly explained the speeches given by the chairman of the NCCC and the chairman of the NCCWC. After the explanation, he invited the delegates to submit their reports. U Saw Tun Sein, a veteran, and U Mahtu Naw from the North Shan State, Special Region No. 5 submitted the reports. The meeting ended at 1030.

The delegate group representing political parties held its meeting at Meeting Hall No. 5 at 1000. At the meeting, Alternate Chairman U Thazan Hla of the National League for Democracy [NLD] told the delegates to present the reports on the topics of the state, the structure of the state, and the head of state. The delegates from the NLD, Shan Nationalities League for Democracy, Union Pa-o National Organization, Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization, and Kokang Democracy and Unity Party said the reports are not ready yet and they proposed that the chairman postpone the meeting to 31 January. Concerning the submission of reports to the panel of chairmen, the delegates from the remaining parties proposed that the alternate chairman postpone the meeting so that the National Unity Party can submit its report on 1 February, while the Shan State Kokang Democratic Party can submit its report on 2 February, the Wa National Development Party can submit its reports on 3 February, and the La-hu National

Development Party and the Union Kayin League can submit their reports on 5 February. The meeting ended at 1020.

The delegate group representing the elected representatives held its meeting at Meeting Hall No. 4 at 1000. At the meeting, Alternate Chairman U Mahn Tin Aung Than of the Union Kayin League told the delegates to submit a report on suggestions, in separate chapters, on the speeches on the state, the structure of state, and the head of state given by the chairman of the NCCC and the chairman of the NCCWC at the plenary session of the National Convention to the panel of chairmen no later than 26 January. He said the next meeting will be held on 28 January to hold discussions on organizing a meeting to read out and discuss the reports, should there be any reports submitted on 26 January. The meeting ended at 1010.

Natural Gas Production Reportedly To Double

BK2601045794 Rangoon THE NEW LIGHT OF BURMA in English 12 Jan 94 p 12

[Text] The Ministry of Energy estimates that the production of natural gas will be increased to 80 million cubic feet [cu ft] per day from the present ceiling of 40 million.

Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, in this open season, has increased its natural gas production and test wells are being drilled in addition to the existing four. Production from Aphyauk Gas Well alone could reach the 80 million cubic feet per day very soon. The gas thus produced will be transported to Yangon through 14 in. pipes, and from here [Yangon] to Sittaung and Myainggale through a network of 10 in., eight in. and six in. pipes. The laying of pipelines in now under way. On completion, natural gas will be conveyed to the gas-driven electric power station in Ywama and the cement factory in Myainggale. A pipeline is also being laid across the Irrawaddy River at Prome-Myanaung crossing. This pipeline will carry gas to the cement plant at Kyangin, the methanol plant at Seiktha and the electric power station at Myanaung.

At present, the 40 million cu ft per day production from four wells is being piped to industries in Yangon, Sittaung Paper Mill and Thaketa Power Station as well as to the power station at Shwedaung.

Rangoon Fires Leave Over 5,000 Homeless

BK2401150394 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] A fire which broke out in the house of U Ohn Maw Htut at No. 610, Third Aye Street, Fourth Ward, Hlaing Township, Yangon [Rangoon] Division, at 1345 gutted over 700 houses leaving more than 5,100 people from 1,200 households homeless. The fire spread from First Aye to Ninth Aye Streets in Fourth Ward, Hlaing River Road, Khangon First and Second Streets, and Aungmingala First Street. Fire engines from around Yangon Division rushed to the scene to put out the fire. Lieutenant General Myo Nyunt, commander of Yangon military command, and responsible personnel supervised the fire fighting efforts and the fire was finally brought under control at 1530.

Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel Pe Nyein, director general of the SLORC office, arrived at the scene this evening and were briefed by responsible personnel. Lt. Gen. Khin Nyunt gave detailed instructions to responsible personnel in order to provide temporary shelter for fire victims, to provide health care, distribute relief goods and food, open special cooperative shops and trade departments, and to take a census of students affected by the fire to make arrangements for them to attend classes as soon as possible. The secretary-1 and responsible personnel next inspected the fire ravaged scene in Hlaing Station Road and left after giving necessary instructions.

Similarly, at 1653, a fire broke out in the house of U Aye Thein at No. 615, BOC corner, Station Road, Nantagon Ward, Insein Township. The fire gutted 12 houses leaving 89 persons from 12 households homeless and causing damage of about 1 million kyats. The fire victims were temporary sheltered at Saywingaba Arlein Ngasint pagoda compound.

Authorities concerned have taken action against the owners of the two houses where the fires started.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Albania's Berisha Holds News Conference

AU2501203594 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1430 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Aida Shehu telephone report from Kuala Lumpur]

[Text] [Announcer] President of the Republic Sali Berisha and the delegation he heads continue their visit in Malaysia. Let us listen to the telephone report we received several minutes ago from Kuala Lumpur:

[Shehu] President Berisha started the second day of his stay in Kuala Lumpur with a visit to the memorial of the nation's martyrs, where a really grand ceremony was held. The inscription on this memorial reads: Honor to those who fought and gave their lives for freedom. It was precisely here that President Berisha placed a wreath of flowers.

Later, at 0945, Berisha conducted a very interesting meeting at the Economic Planning Department. The department chairman acquainted the guests with the functioning and goal of this institution. He also briefed those present with the road followed by the economy of his country and the well-defined strategy till 2020. The chairman of this department pointed out that the 8 percent increase in the general production over the last 10 years was a success for the country's economy. Dividends per capita suffered a significant increase from $360 in 1970 to $3,300 in 1993. The main goal up to 2020 was to convert Malaysia into a completely developed country in all fields.

The chairman confirmed that one of the main factors for this rapid economic development was the rapid privatization of such sectors as telecommunications, roads, airports, drinking water supplies, hospitals, energy, and so on. After this meeting, Berisha paid visits to two of the most powerful Malaysian companies, Telecom Sapura, and Proton Devices. After visiting the workshops, they held concrete discussions about possible cooperation between the two countries, that is, between these firms and our country.

A warm meeting was held in the residence of the president of the republic. President Berisha invited 48 Albanian students who study here in Kuala Lumpur. They said that they were missing their families, country, relatives, but they were happy about Albania's achievements. They discussed their progress in their studies, the conditions, and their treatment. The desire to return to their homeland for holidays as soon as possible and to meet their folks and Albania filled the hour of this meeting.

At 1730, President Berisha gave a news conference for Malaysian reporters. In their questions, they expressed the increasing interest in Albania, the possibilities for the investment of Malaysian capital in our country, the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the problem of Kosova, and so forth.

Albanian President Ends Visit

BK2601101094 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Excerpt] Albania supports Malaysia's position that a new effort along the line of the Cambodian peace plan should be introduced to end the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Its president, Dr. Sali Berisha, said he welcomed any international effort to end the conflict, which according to him, has continued [words indistinct]. He said this at a news conference at the close of his four-day visit to Malaysia. Dr. Berisha and his 40-member delegation will leave for Langkawi today. He will depart from Brunei tomorrow. [passage omitted]

Government Announces Fund Allocation for Sabah

BK2301152394 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1300 GMT 23 Jan 94

[Text] The federal government had allocated 2.14 billion ringgit for Sabah under the Sixth Malaysian Plan. (Said Jamal bin Said Jaafar), deputy director of the Planning Division of the Sabah Development Office, said nearly 1.5 billion ringgit from that amount has been spent. The huge allocation reflects the federal government's sense of responsibility in developing Sabah in all fields. The funds were used to finance economic development projects (68 percent), social welfare sector (25 percent), and security (six percent). The remainder is for administrative purposes. He expressed hope that the funds will be spent wisely to ensure the completion of the scheduled projects.

Cambodia

Ranariddh Discusses 'Problems To Be Solved'

BK2601082194 Phnom Penh National Radio of Cambodia Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Speech by First Prime Minister Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh at the University of Fine Arts in Phnom Penh on 25 January—recorded]

[Summary From Poor Reception] I assure you that the Royal Government will try to solve problems while taking the interests of our compatriot traders into account. Whatever I do is in the name of the Royal Government. There have been cases when it was said that problems could not be solved; yet the Royal Government solved them without any demonstrations occurring. But there is no need to praise Ranariddh or say that he is a hero.

There are still many problems to be solved, such as the schools lacking textbooks and teachers, poverty in rural areas, insecurity, and so forth. We should not focus exclusively on the problems with the Olympic Market. The problem will be solved without putting Cambodia's interests at risk. This should be done properly. I am very concerned about unauthorized checkpoints. This is a problem we must solve. I urge all of you to be considerate and sympathetic to the Royal Government. Show the international community that Cambodia has no problems; that we have social and political stability.

Ranariddh Meets Austrian Deputy Foreign Minister

BK2601085394 Phnom Penh National Radio of Cambodia Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] On the morning of 25 January, Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh received at his residence the Austrian delegation led by His Excellency [H.E.] Wolfgang Schallenberg, Austrian deputy foreign minister.

The first prime minister talked about the efforts of the Royal Government of Cambodia [RGC] to search for peace, national reconciliation, and particularly in national rehabilitation and reconstruction, under the correct leadership of his majesty the king. Prince Krompreah further said that the RGC has four goals for the investment sector, namely political stability, higher wages, identifying land for leasing, and lower taxes.

Concerning the Khmer Rouge issue, Prince Krompreah said that this cannot be considered a big issue. Furthermore, the RGC will make Sihanoukville a duty-free zone for investment. He further said that as for agriculture, the royal government has paid great attention to vigorously promoting the standard of living by paying attention to clearing networks of canals, planting trees and other crops, and ending the clearing of forests.

Schallenberg expressed profound thanks for Cambodian efforts to rehabilitate and rebuild the country. He further said that along with providing assistance to rebuild the Hydropower station at Kirirom, the Austrian Government will continue to contribute to assisting the Cambodian Government and people within the lofty Austrian-Cambodian ties of friendship.

Rallies Highlight Rangsi-Businessman Dispute

BK2501114394 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English (Inside Indochina Supplement) 25 Jan 94 p 3

[Report by Brian Hansford: "Rangsi and Thai Firm Sparring as Anger Spreads"]

[Text] Phnom Penh—Two weeks ago, Cambodia's Finance Minister Sam Rangsi told visiting Thai business people his country needed good money to replace bad.

Passing this message on to the Thai Boon Rong (TBR) company was what ordinary Cambodians did last Thursday in their third protest against prices at the TBR-built market in central Phnom Penh.

"The good investors will drive out the bad," read placards last week, using a near identical line from Rangsi's speech made during Thai Prime Minister Chuan Likphai's Cambodia visit.

Support for the dispute has widened since the last demonstration on December 20. Some of last week's protesters said they were students from several Phnom Penh colleges.

Apart from supporting the traders' claims that rents at the soon to-be-completed TBR market are too high, demonstrators said they were showing their support for Rangsi in his heated war of words with TBR chairman Theng Bun Ma.

"We come here because we want to find justice for Sam Rangsi," student leader Pich Moniroat told journalists in front of 1,000 people gathered opposite Phnom Penh's National Assembly building.

At a January 11 press conference, Rangsi said King Sihanouk had sent a message fully supporting the market traders, wrote the latest edition of Cambodia's fortnightly English-language PHNOM PENH POST newspaper.

A few days later, the TBR chairman published a letter in another local newspaper describing Rangsi as "the minister of destroying national economy and finance" accusing him of using "inciting" language, and inviting him to "inspect our company".

Rangsi's written response spoke of "the economic colonialist yoke of the Thai Boon Rong company which has the backing of the mafia operating in nearby countries". In his letter, Rangsi promised to send "officials to inspect your company in the future".

A student from Phnom Penh's economics institute said he had come to support Rangsi against TBR. "The youth support king, National Assembly, and Sam Rangsi" read a nearby placard.

"I come here with the youth and business people to ask the Government to kick the Thai Boon Rong company out of Cambodia," said Pich Moniroat, who told journalists he was head of the Patriotic Youth Association from Phnom Penh University.

"Why didn't Thai Boon Rong settle with excellency Sam Rangsi in a quiet way (instead) of putting in the newspaper?" asked Pich rhetorically.

Unofficial Cambodian sources say the REAKSMEI KAMPUCHEA newspaper which ran Theng Bun Ma's criticism of Rangsi is at least partly owned by the TBR group. In his written reply to the company chairman, Rangsi refers to the "clarification which you had your newspaper publish".

The demonstration seems to have caught the imagination of an increasing number of Cambodians. Details remain sketchy about TBR itself.

Chairman Theng Bun Ma is a Sino-Cambodian from Kompong Cham province, a TBR representative told Inside Indochina.

"According to what I receive, he is originally a Cambodian who fled durihg the war to become a Thai citizen," Cambodia's Information Ministry spokesman Sieng Lapresse said in a telephone interview last week. "The company is a Thai company."

In the TBR chairman's newspaper message to Rangsi, the letter accused the finance minister of daring to "denounce the previous government".

Senior officials in the now-defunct State of Cambodia (SOC) regime are widely blamed by Cambodians for corrupt selling of state assets which led to Phnom Penh's December 1991 anti-corruption riots.

The TBR chairman appears to be trying to exaggerate differences between the former SOC rulers and the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] party to which Rangsi belongs and which won the elections in May, observers say.

After the second market demonstration in December, First Prime Minister Prince Norodom Ranariddh's Cabinet director Li Thuch said a "positive start" had been made on solving the dispute and no more protests would occur. Government officials and protestors last week contradicted him.

"At this time, this thing is not moving anywhere," said Lapresse.

Inside Indochina at the end of last week was unable to contact TBR company representatives or Rangsi for comment on the latest developments.

Apart from the market at the centre of this dispute, TBR is developing several hotels in Phnom Penh. Early last-month, the company donated a 12-seater plane to the Government, according to an AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE report published on December 7.

A few weeks ago, THE CAMBODIA TIMES newspaper ran a full-page 50th birthday greeting to First Prime Minister Ranariddh "With Best Wishes" from Theng Bun Ma and all personnel at TBR.

Last week's protesters had a different message for the TBR chairman: "We want the Royal Government to settle this dispute with Thai Boon Rong company in front of the people," said student leader Pich, 30.

"We will demonstrate again if there is no solution."

Rangsi-Businessman Squabble Said 'Gone Too Far'

BK2601113794 Phnom Penh REAKSMEI KAMPUCHEA in Cambodian 21 Jan 94 pp 1, 5

[Article by Atek: "A Personal Dispute that May Have Gone Too Far"]

[Text] An official in the cabinet of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] located near the Chamka Mon state palace revealed that the CPP Standing Committee held its so-called regular meeting on the afternoon of 19 January. The official, who requested anonimity, told us that besides issues directly concerning the CPP, the meeting also tackled the problem mentioned in the written answer of Mr. Sam Rangsi, minister of economy and finance, when he responded to the letter of Mr. Theng Bun Ma, chairman of the Thai Boon Rong Company, the investor of the new Olympic market.

It should be noted that the meeting was attended by several important CPP ministers. The official expressed his personal opinion "that the content of the written answer by Mr. Sam Rangsi to Olympic market investor Theng Bun Ma appeared to be going too far beyond an economic perimeter, becoming by itself a political issue, and seeming to be of a mudslinging nature," although that dispute first took place as a personal matter.

It was learned that Mr. Theng Bun Ma wrote a very critical letter to Mr. Sam Rangsi, the minister of economy and finance of the Kingdom of Cambodia. But it was also learned that Mr. Theng Bun Ma is just an ordinary investor. Mr. Sam Rangsi answered Mr. Theng Bun Ma in a letter that a CPP official described as being part of a purely private squabble using a private newspaper as the venue, a squabble which has gone too far and which unfortunately has become a new problem that never should have been.

The dispute between Messrs. Sam Rangsi and Theng Bun Ma up through the afternoon of 19 January has not been reported by state television, radio, or the government news agency AKP although the two gentlemen had already exchanged heated words.

Because of the failure of the state media to report it, both local and foreign observers in Phnom Penh have concluded that this was "merely a personal dispute" that would have no effect on the royal government's policy. People are concerned, however, that this acute personal dispute might degenarate into a rift between groups and might affect the bonds between the two ruling parties if no attempt is made to bring about understanding and compromise and if no clear line is drawn.

When this problem seriously affects the inner bonds between the two major parties, it will be said that the dispute hurts his majesty the king's national reconciliation policy and the royal government as a whole may be shaken.

Most analysts believe that the more serious the internal rift of the government or that of the two major parties in the coalition, the greater the gain made by the outlawed Khmer Rouge.

Sirivut Receives UN Envoy for Human Rights

BK2401115294 Phnom Penh AKP in English 1015 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Phnom Penh AKP January 24—Prince Norodom Sirivut, vice prime minister and minister for foreign affairs and international cooperation, met here on Saturday [22 January] Mr. Michael Kirby, special UN envoy for human rights, who is now on a visit to Cambodia.

Australian Michael Kirby, appointed last November as the United Nations special representative for human rights in Cambodia, arrived in Phnom Penh on Friday [21 January] and is due to begin looking into Cambodia's human rights situation as part of a week-long fact-finding mission aimed at strengthening human rights education.

Speaking to his guest, Prince Norodom Sirivut welcomed the Cambodia's visit by Mr. Michael Kirby on his human rights mission in the country, saying the issue of human rights in Cambodia [word indistinct] to be improved.

He thanked the United Nations for its concern and assistance to the improvement of human rights in Cambodia and pledged to support and create favourable conditions to the UN Human Rights Center to fulfill its mission in Cambodia.

Mr. Kirby informed the prince that his mission in Cambodia was to keep contact with the government and people of Cambodia on human rights issue and help the latter to respect the human rights.

Mr. Kirby will to make a report on the human right situation in Cambodia at the UN [words indistinct] the 50th meeting of the UN Human Rights Committee.

He also asked Prince Sirivut to send a high-power delegation of Cambodia to participate in the (?meeting to be) held in Geneva in (?February).

VGNUFC Comments on Aim of UN Envoy's Visit

BK2501035994 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Excerpt] On 22 January, at the alliance's suggestion, the United Nations sent an Australian representative in charge of human rights to Cambodia.

Upon arrival in Phnom Penh this UN envoy announced before the press that he had come to protect the so-called rights of Vietnamese nationals in Cambodia.

Our Cambodian nation and people clearly see through the alliance's scheme in sending this man to Cambodia. It is in order to kill our Cambodian nation and race and allow Vietnam to annex Cambodia into its Indochinese Federation, thus turning our Cambodia into a second Kampuchea Kraom [former Cambodian territory annexed by Vietnam].

His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk has been well aware of this dark design of the alliance. This is why he wrote an important essay dated 5 January 1994 entitled: Human rights in Cambodia and the Cambodian People's Right to Live Peacefully Forever Within Their Legitimate Land and Sea Boundaries as Recognized Internationally Between 1963 and 1969.

The Cambodian nation and people and the king also well know that the two-headed government has not paid attention to the King's essay. On the contrary, it has welcomed this representative of the bad elements who has come here to kill the Cambodian nation and people. [passage omitted]

Khmer Rouge Claims Mutiny by Government Troops

BK2501080894 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Excerpt] According to a report from Siem Reap Province's Chikreng District, 50 Vietnamese communist puppet soldiers stationed at Dam Dek Market along Route 6, who were angry with their superiors, shot and lobbed hand grenades at the Vietnamese communist puppet ringleaders on the night of 20 January. A puppet major, a first lieutenant, two second lieutenants, and a district governor were killed; some other puppet officials were wounded. [passage omitted]

'Puppet Commanders' Attacked in Samraong District

BK2601031394 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] On the night of 24 January, 2,000 people and 600 ANKI [National Army of Independent Cambodia] soldiers gathered in Samraong District of Oddar Meanchey Province. They were angry with [FUNCINPEC General] Nhoek Bunchhai, other ANKI commanders, puppet commanders Prum Samen, Long Sopheap, and Eng Sopheap, commanders of special units Kanti, Di, and Chan, and the other evil commanders who have plundered their salaries and people's rice and oppressed and forcibly recruited people to fight and die on their behalf. The people and soldiers jointly attacked these elements who were enjoying their drinking, killing or wounding a number of them. Nhoek Bunchhai fled from the scene. The people are chasing him.

At the same time, the ANKI soldiers deserted the battlefield and stopped fighting because they have not been paid, had no rice nor medicine, and did not want to die for nothing. They do not want to serve the Vietnamese and Vietnamese puppets any more. They would rather go back home to farm and earn a living for their families than die for the puppets.

Siem Reap Grenade Attack Said To Kill Officers

BK2601044994 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Excerpt] On the night of 21 January, 43 puppet military policemen and Para [Khmer People's National Liberation Front] soldiers together with over 200 people, who are enraged with the Vietnamese communist puppet ringleaders and the puppet district officials, attacked and lobbed grenades at the Vietnamese communist puppet ringleaders at Kompong Th'kov market in Kralanh District, the seat of Siem Reap Province. They killed a captain, two first lieutenants, two second lieutenants, and wounded some others.

The surviving ringleaders and Vietnamese communist puppets' district officials fled in great panic. At the same time, the puppet and Para soldiers together with the people burned all the houses of the Vietnamese communist puppet ringleaders and seized the rice that they had plundered from the people. [passage omitted]

Government Force 'Routed' on Kulen Battlefield

BK2601043794 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] The ringleaders of the Vietnamese communist puppets mobilized 200 Vietnamese puppet soldiers on

21 January and sent them to attack a liberated village belonging to the people and the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] at K'daoh, on the Kulen battlefield in Preah Vihear Province.

Aware of the plan in advance, however, the NADK and the people were waiting for them. The NADK and the people jointly attacked and routed them with assorted primitive and modern weapons of every caliber. They killed a captain and seven Vietnamese communist puppet soldiers; wounded others; and seized two pistols, nine AK rifles, and a quantity of war materiel. The survivors retreated in disarray. Many puppet soldiers fled to their homes. Having been forcibly recruited, they were afraid of being killed and did not want to fight and die for a handful of warmongering Vietnamese communist puppets.

Government Troops Accused of Poisoning Water

BK2501045494 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Excerpt] People who have deserted their villages to take refuge in the mountains and forests in order to avoid the suppressive operations—burning down villages, killing, and bullying—by the Vietnamese communist puppets, have said that the two-headed government's troops in the Siem Reap and Samraong-Oddar Meanchey zones—under the command of Vietnamese communist puppet military commanders; namely, Ke Kimyan, Pol Saroeun, Long Sopheap, Prum Samen, and (Oy Sopheap)—have poisoned water sources, creeks, and ponds. People who used water from these sources—particularly children and old people—became intoxicated, vomited, and had convulsions. Some of them died. [passage omitted]

Indonesia

Bosnian President Arrives for Two-Day Visit

BK2501132094 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] Indonesia has again reiterated its proposal that the arms embargo against Bosnia be lifted because of the unbalanced arms strength. This was stated by Minister/State Secretary Murdiono to newsmen at Merdeka Palace an hour ago, after Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic paid a courtesy visit on President Suharto.

According to Minister Murdiono, Indonesia is making a continuous effort to support the Bosnian people's struggle.

Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic, who flew to Jakarta this afternoon of his own desire, is making the working visit to Indonesia after visiting Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam.

Suharto Meets Bosnian President

BK2601052794 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0500 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] President Suharto says it is impossible for Indonesia to send troops to Bosnia-Herzegovina because of the different war doctrines [doktrin perang] of the two countries. Discussing the outcome of today's talks between President Suharto and visiting Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic in Jakarta, Minister-State Secretary Murdiono said that even though Indonesia will not send troops to the former Yugoslav republic, it supports the Bosnian people's struggle against Serbia and Croatia.

Malaysian Minister Opposes Change in APEC Status

BK2201104494 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0438 GMT 22 Jan 94

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 22 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysian International Trade and Industry Minister Rafidah Aziz has urged ASEAN countries not to give in to pressures by big countries to change the forum of the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) into a formal institution.

Malaysia will not give in to pressures and we hope other ASEAN countries will do the same, she said during a dialogue session to expose Indonesian businessmen on trade and investment opportunities in Malaysia here Friday.

Responding to a question on Malaysia's stand towards APEC which a dialogue participant said differed to that of other ASEAN countries, she said Malaysia had no objection to cooperation between Asia and Pacific as it was a loose forum and programme and project orientated.

What we disagree is turning APEC into a structural and formal institution, holding summits for country leaders and, with its secretariat expanding and no longer programme and project orientated, she said.

Rafidah, who is leading a 25-member delegation for a two-day visit to Indonesia, said ASEAN would lose out if APEC were to be a formal institution.

Why we don't want it to be so because ASEAN, with its six countries, has 320 million people. We have long promoted ASEAN. We shouldn't be submerged in Asia-Pacific and losing our voice in a formal APEC, she said.

It was for this reason, she said, that Malaysia proposed the East Asia Economic Caucas (EAEC) with ASEAN as the backbone.

Rafidah also called on ASEAN businessmen to be more aggresive in establishing economic cooperation among them apart from intensifying efforts to set up joint venture companies.

They should exploit the rapid economic growth in the region, like their non-ASEAN counterparts were doing, she said.

She said such cooperation was vital in pooling together their experience, expertise, and financial resources in order to compete with non-ASEAN entrepreneurs not only in the region but also elsewhere.

Earlier, Rafidah held discussions with Trade Minister Satrio Judono on bilateral trade as well as regional and global issues.

She also met Research and Technology Minister B.J. Habibie where she discussed the possiblility of Malaysia participating in Indonesia's aviation industry.

Vice President Meets Papua New Guinean Minister

BK2501072394 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] Indonesia is ready to continue defense and security cooperation, particularly military training with Papua New Guinea [PNG]. Vice President Try Sutrisno expressed Indonesia's readiness to do this during a courtesy call by PNG Defense Minister Paul Tohian at his residence on Diponegoro Street in Jakarta today. The visit is aimed at enhancing bilateral relations, particularly in defense and security.

According to Defense Minister Paul Tohian, to enable the establishment of a national language, a number of ethnic groups in the country, which has a population of four million and 700 languages, need to be given a new formula. The PNG defense minister urged Indonesia to receive a PNG delegation for an APEC [Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation] meeting to be held in Jakarta this year.

The PNG guest, whose visit will end on 30 January, will visit the Army Industry, the Nusantara Aircraft Industry, the National Shipyard, the Ammunition Plant, and tourist spots in Jakarta and Yogyakarta. He will also observe military rural assistance programs undertaken by military personnel in Indonesia. He will fly from Surabaya to Irian Jaya, where he will visit border villages.

Foreign Minister on Official Visit to Yemen

BK2401112894 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0930 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Jakarta, Jan 24 (ANTARA)—Foreign Affairs Minister Ali Alatas is on an official visit to Yemen from January 22 to 27, 1994 at the invitation of his Yemeni counterpart.

His agenda in Yemen include meetings with the Yemeni Foreign Affairs Minister, Trade Minister, Minister of Development Planning Dr. 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani and Industry Minister Mohammad Sa'id al- 'Attar, according to the minister's programme received from the Yemeni embassy here Monday.

Minister Alatas is also scheduled to pay courtesy calls on President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, Prime Minister Haydar al-'Attas and Vice President 'Ali Salim al-Bid.

A bilateral cooperation agreement between Indonesia and Yemen is also expected to be signed during his stay in Yemen.

Alatas' visit is the first visit ever made by an Indonesian official to Sana'a since the reunification of north and south Yemen in May 1990.

Indonesia opened an embassy in Sana'a in 1992 and Yemen has had an embassy in Jakarta since 1990.

Suharto Urges Utilization of Nuclear Energy

BK2501094594 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] President Suharto has stressed that technology will not yield benefits if it is only directed for scientific purposes and not widely used for general benefit. As such, cooperation between scientific researchers and consumers of technology is important and an early establishment of cooperation between the two is quite necessary. The consumers will be able to evaluate personally the benefits derived from the acquisition of new technology.

This was stated by Suharto in Jakarta today at the simultaneous inauguration of a new gas-powered electron ray machine and the exhibition on National Atomic Energy Agency [BATAN] achievements during the Fifth Development Program.

Taking the opportunity, President Suharto urged industry to take advantage of technological progress to increase production.

[Begin Suharto recording] The community in general, and the industrial sector in particular, need to assimilate and utilize new technology so that quality can be improved further and production costs reduced. This is important in the effort to increase the value of industrial products and creating a more competitive atmosphere for medium-scale industries. People should also realize that nuclear energy is another important potential source of energy. Numerous developed nations have benefited from the utilization of nuclear energy. We now need to embark on the utilization of nuclear energy because our main energy sources are only derived from natural resources, which are not unlimited. The natural resources, which are irreplaceable, will be depleted soon if we do not utilize them sparingly. We should continuously strive to conserve our natural resources. Therefore, we should acquire nuclear technology because we need to consider the utilization of nuclear energy. [end recording]

Minister of State for Research and Technology B Habibie reported that the establishment of the electron ray machine, which will begin operations soon, is for BATAN scientific research purposes. The installation of the machine is among numerous technologies using radiation. At the beginning, it will be used for the production of power cable. The U.S.$2-million machine uses technology from China.

Students Arrested During Protest at DPR Building

BK2501104394 Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN in Indonesian 5 Jan 94 p 1

[Excerpts] Jakarta, 5 Jan—Authorities from the Jakarta Police Headquaters have arrested 19 students while marching to the House of Representatives (DPR) building in Senayan, Jakarta on 4 January. The students, who called themselves the Action Front of Indonesian Youths (FAPI), intended to see Wahono, House Speaker, to protest the arrest of 21 students, and to demand the release of their friends who were detained last month. Those students had been charged with insulting President Suharto during a demonstration in front of the House on 14 December.

The new wave of protest by about 40 students criticized the harsh "security approach" being used by the government in its development efforts. During the protest demonstration, banners reading "Security approach is antidemocratic," and "Free our friends," were unfurled.

Security troops managed to grab some of the demonstrating students while others succeeded in getting away. The demonstration was eventually dispersed by the mobile brigade of the Jakarta Police Headquarters.

It was said that Beathor Suryadi, 35, spokesman for FAPI, managed to speak to the DPR's public relations officer about the matter because Wahono was absent from the House. However, while he was trying to do so, his friends who were waiting outside the House were arrested.

According to Police Lieutenant Colonel Latif Rabar, the students were arrested for violating Section 510 of the Criminal Code of Law—for staging demonstration and holding street processions without the police permit.

He said that at this moment, the arrested students are under intensive police investigation. [passage omitted]

News of the arrest reached Luhut Pangaribuan, director of Jakarta's Legal Aid Bureau. He said that there was no reason to arrest the students because they had not broken any law. [passage omitted]

Revocation of Foreign Trawlers' Licenses Urged

BK2301143894 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 23 Jan 94

[Text] The operating licence of foreign fishing boats in Aceh waters should be revoked because they often violate existing regulations, including the clause banning them from operating within 12 miles from the coast. Colonel Rudi Supriatna, commander of 012 Military Area Command, said Thai trawlers flying Indonesian flags, who operate in the western Aceh waters, often violate this clause.

The commander, who was aboard the Indonesian Navy's Nomad plane along with Navy Commodore Widodo, commander of the Western Fleet's Naval Combat Group, made an inspection tour of western Aceh waters today. During the inspection tour, they found three foreign fishing boats in (Calang) waters, western Aceh, at about 156 km west of Banda Aceh and they were operating within 12 miles from the coast. Another violation committed by the trawlers was the use of drift nets, which are capable of catching all types of fish.

Laos

Countries Sign Minutes on Mekong Navigation

BK2201103294 Vientiane KPL in English 0813 GMT 22 Jan 94

[Text] Vientiane, January 22 (KPL)—The minutes of a four- day Sino-Lao-Myanmar [Burmese]-Thai technical meeting on cooperation in opening the Lancang-Mekong river to navigation was signed in Kunming on Friday 21, XINHUA reports.

The document says that the representatives of the four countries participating in the meeting agreed to accelerate the work to open the river to navigation as soon as possible.

A special organization will be set up to study how to improve conditions for navigation and dredge the channel to allow large vessels to sail the river, according to the minutes.

The document also says that Laos, Myanmar [Burma] and Thailand will entrust China to sum up the proposals made by the four sides and make a new draft of the Sino-Lao-Myanmar-Thai agreement on opening the river to navigation.

Also present at the meeting were representatives of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), and the Mekong River Committee, who promised to help with the navigation project.

The upper reaches of the river are in China and called the Lancang river. Its middle and lower reaches run through Laos, Myanmar and Thailand and are called the Mekong river.

Talks Held With SRV Foreign Relations Delegation

BK2401142994 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] Talks were held at the Vang Sadet residence in Vientiane capital this morning between a Foreign Relations Committee delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and a SRV Foreign Relations Committee delegation. The LPDR delegation was headed by Somsavat Lengsavat, deputy chief of the Foreign Relations Committee, while the Vietnamese delegation was headed by Do Van Tai, deputy chief of the Foreign Relations Committee. The SRV delegation is currently on a friendship visit to the LPDR.

In the talks, the two sides informed one another of their achievements in various fields, particularly in fulfilling the agricultural production plan and in carrying out economic work and the export and import trade in 1993. They also informed each other of the gradual developments of various services, for example the development of the marketing mechanism under state management. The two sides have agreed to further strengthen the special fraternal solidarity and to further enhance and consolidate the already normalized relations of friendship between the two countries. They have also unanimously agreed to improve and broaden cooperation with other friendly countries of the world.

The Vietnamese delegation arrived in Vientiane at noon on 23 January for a week's visit to Laos. During its stay, the delegation is scheduled to visit some economic and cultural establishments in Vientiane Municipality, Vientiane Province, and Luang Prabang Province.

New International Border Gate With Thailand

BK2301142794 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 23 Jan 94

[Text] A ceremony to mark the upgrading of a border gate in Laos' Houai Sai District, Bokeo Province, and Thailand's Chiang Khong District, Chiang Rai Province, to an international border gate was held on 21 January. The Houai Sai-Chiang Khong border gate was upgraded to the level of international in accordance with an agreement reached between governments of Laos and Thailand. The upgrade is aimed at creating favorable conditions for the raising of trade relations and exchanges from local to international levels. This border gate will also create favorable conditions for foreign guests as well as domestic travelers to travel to third countries.

There are now two international-level border gates at the Lao-Thai border, namely the Tha Deua-Nong Khai and the Houai Sai-Chiang Khong border gates.

A further report said that on 21 January, Charat Phuachuai, deputy minister of communications of Thailand, donated 31.5 million kips in aid to the Bokeo provincial administration. Accepting the aid on behalf of the provincial administration was Khamsai Phomisai, deputy governor the province. Out of the total, 30 million kips will be used to expand and asphalt a road linking the municipal area and the provincial airport. Meanwhile, the remaining 1.5 million kips will be used for the rehabilitation of various temples in the municipal area. The Thai deputy communications minister presented the aid to the Bokeo provincial administration while leading a ceremonial offering of yellow robes and alms to Buddhist monks at the Keo Phonsavan temple in the municipal area of the province.

Philippines

Ramos Authorizes Plan To Help Rebel Returnees

BK2601084794 Manila MANILA STANDARD in English 24 Jan 94 p 5

[By Fel V. Maragay]

[Text] President Ramos created yesterday a new body that will oversee the implementation of projects for the social and economic rehabilitation of rebels who have returned to the folds of the law.

The Chief Executive issued Executive Order (EO) No. 152 creating the National Program for Unification and Development (NPUD) to replace the National Reconciliation and Development Program (NRDP) which had been rendered inoperative due to the deletion of its P200 million budget from the 1994 general appropriations act.

In the same EO, Mr. Ramos formed the three-man National Program for Unification and Development Council (NPUDC) to be headed by Interior and Local Government Secretary Rafael Alunan III.

The NPUDC will have Defense Secretary Renato de Villa and Presidential Adviser on Peace Process Oscar Santos as vice chairman and member.

The creation of the NPUDC is seen as a rebuff to the Senate's withdrawal of funding to the rebel-returnees program that was tantamount to the abolition of the NRDP.

The Senate chopped off the P200 million rebel-returnee program over the vehement objection of Malacanang which warned that such action would jeopardize the peace and reconciliation program.

The alleged rampant irregularities in disbursements of rebel- returnee fund induced the Upper Chamber into scrapping the said funding.

The senators gave credence to reports that funds were released for fake rebel-returnees and even ghost surrenderees. Malacanang, however, said that action was being taken to check the alleged anomalies.

The [Malacanang] palace said even assuming that these anomalies existed, this was not sufficient ground to withhold funding for the program.

Government Panel Appeals to RAM To Resume Talks

BK2501025594 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 21 Jan 94 pp 1, 8

[By Aris R. Ilagan]

[Text] Members of the government panel negotiating peace talks with ultra-rightist groups appealed yesterday to the leaders of the Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabansa [Revolutionary Nationalist Alliance] (RAM) to return to the bargaining table for the resumption of the peace negotiations.

Professor Alfredo Tadiar, head of the government peace panel, said the resumption of talks with representatives of the RAM led by Brig. Gen. Edgardo Abenina cannot be suspended indefinitely because the country's stability is at stake.

"We call on RAM leaders to go back to the negotiating table. We hope that the substantive part of the talks would start soon," he said.

Tadiar explained that talks with RAM leaders were suspended last 2 December because of differences on procedures.

He said the technical working committee with representatives of both panels was about to discuss recommendations on 10 talking points submitted by the RAM, such as electoral reforms and good government.

Former army lieutenant colonel Gregorio Honasan, also a RAM leader, reportedly complained about the government's failure to provide the right wing leaders with security, citing the numerous armed escorts of Nur Misuari, leader of Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), during his stay in Mindanao in talks with government representatives.

Tadiar, however, ruled out any discrimination against the RAM, adding that it even failed to avail itself of the 30 permits to carry firearms issued to it by the government for personal security. RAM leaders, he added, only got 12 permits to carry firearms.

The government panel also said that they remain optimistic that sincerity on both sides will still prevail despite the initial problems now affecting the talks.

Communist Exiles Blamed for Delaying Talks

BK2601044394 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Defense Secretary Renato De Villa blamed Filipino communist exiles in the Netherlands for delaying peace talks and warned that the government is losing patience. Talks to end the 25- year-old communist rebellion had ground to a halt because rebel leader Jose Maria [Joma] Sison insists on unacceptable terms for the talks, President Ramos told a visiting European Parliament delegation about the government's problems in talking to the fragmented communist movement.

Joma Sison issued a statement from his exile base in Utrecht last weekend calling on Ramos to drop his insistence that any accord should not violate the Philippine Constitution. He also asked for a second round of preliminary discussions to be held in the Netherlands before peace talks open in Vietnam.

President Ramos was informed yesterday by European parliamentarians that Utrecht-based communist leader Jose Maria Sison and his group no longer enjoy substantial support in Western Europe. The group told the president that Sison and his followers are now considered an isolated group, where before had received sympathy and support from some quarters. The visiting parliamentarians explained that the change in attitude towards Sison is on account of his continued adherence to the Maoist ideology, which now belongs to the past and has almost no future.

CPP Chief Comments on Breakaway Groups' Funding

BK2601063694 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 22 Jan 94 p 10

[Text] The recently formed breakaway groups in the major leftist legal organizations are being funded by the government, according to exiled communist leader Jose Ma. Sison. The Netherlands-based Sison, in his renewed attacks against his critics, also accused columnist and University of the Philippines professor Alex Magno as being hired by the government to write anti-communist propaganda.

In a statement faxed to the INQUIRER yesterday, Sison said groups like the Bukluran ng Manggagawang Pilipino, Demokratikong Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas, and the Kapatirang Anak Pawis [Union of Filipino Workers, Democratic Peasants Movement of the Philippines, and the Brotherhood of Laborers] are being used by the government for propaganda against the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] and the National Democratic Front.

Magno laughed off the accusation, saying Sison should learn to be more tolerant of outside comments. "What does he want, no one comments on the CPP internal debate?" he asked, adding the debate has become a public issue.

Officials Unhappy With CPLA's Arms Turnover

BK2401042594 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 19 Jan 94 p 12

[By Teddy Molina]

[Text] Bangued, Abra—Police and provincial officials are impatient over the alleged slow turnover of firearms by troops of the Cordillera People's Liberation Army [CPLA] under former rebel priest Conrado Balweg.

Two deadlines set by the local Philippine National Police [PNP] lapsed last week but only 15 out of 45 firearms issued by the government to the CPLA men in this province had been returned, Supt. July Cordoviz, Abra PNP director, said. More than a hundred government firearms were loaned by the Aquino administration to the CPLA when the latter joined the government's anti-insurgency campaign in 1987.

Last month, President Ramos ordered Balweg and the CPLA to return all firearms issued to them.

Abra is the home base of Balweg but CPLA forces are also deployed in other Cordillera provinces.

Cordoviz, however, discounted the need to retrieve the rest of the guns by force, saying that he was relying on peaceful negotiations he had initiated with Balweg and the tribal groups' council of elders last 2 January.

On the other hand, Gov. Vicente Valera wanted all CPLA firearms "whether government-owned or CPLA-owned" taken in at once.

Valera said he will ask the national government for "specific moves" to hasten the turnover of the guns.

"We are ready in case (Interior Secretary Rafael) Alunan III tells us to do," Valera said. He did not elaborate.

At the start of Oplan Paglalansag [Operation Dismantle] last year, Valera called for the inclusion of the CPLA in the nationwide campaign against loose firearms, branding the group as a "private army."

He had complained against the group's alleged intimidation of voters during the last local elections and its alleged demand for food rations from villagers during its operation here.

Cordoviz said they had a dialogue with Balweg and his group in Luba, Abra where they agreed to comply with the president's directive. "But it's taking them a long time," he added.

Of the 15 firearms turned over by the CPLA here, three Garands and one M14 rifle were given during the 2-4 January Luba dialogue.

Eight Garands were brought to the PNP camp here on 6 and 9 January, according to Cordoviz.

Other firearms now with the PNP were one M16 rifle and two Garands which were confiscated from CPLA men in Bucay town last 3 November.

Cordoviz said he was scheduled to have a second dialogue with CPLA leaders led by Mariano Agostos from Luba this week.

Ramos Launches 23-Billion Peso Job Program

BK2601113894 Manila MANILA STANDARD in English 23 Jan 94 p 2

[By Joem H. Macaspac]

[Text] President Ramos launched yesterday a program that would provide some two million jobs to the rural people in the next three years, with allocation of some P23 billion [Philippine pesos].

Dubbed "Kabuhayan 2000," [Livelihood 2000] the project was simultaneously began in various parts of the country. The president presided over the launching ceremonies in Balayan, Batangas, together with Speaker Jose de Venecia and former Vice President Salvador Laurel.

The president designated Interior and Local Government Secretary Rafael Alunan III as chairman of the inter-agency committee that will implement the program.

In his speech at Balayan, the president said his government is pursuing the project as part of the national effort to improve the economy by providing better and high paying jobs to the rural folk. He said Kabuhayan 2000 is a vital cog in his Pilipinas [Philippines] 2000 economic development program for the Philippines.

Mr. Ramos stressed that the ultimate objective of the program is the eradication of poverty and consequently improving the quality of life of the people.

The employment plan, Mr. Ramos said, is also part of a three-pronged undertaken by the Presidential Council for Countryside Development, the Commission to Fight Poverty, and the Philippine Council for Sustainable Development. [sentence as published]

These agencies have been tasked with coming out with programs that would stimulate employment, accelerate production and generate capital. But the new employment program has the local government units at its forefront. The governors and mayors, through their respective organizations, have already accepted the president's challenge and agreed to work for the program's success.

The project will also have six components that each will be handled by one department.

Job opportunities will be created through reforestation, agribusiness development, rural enterprises, rural infrastructure, and job placement.

Thus, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources will be tasked with implementing the reforestation phase; the Department of Agriculture and Food on agribusiness development; the Department of Trade and Industry on rural enterprise development; the Department of Public Works and Highways on infrastructure projects; the Department of Labor and

Employment on job placements; and, the Department of Interior and Local Government on capability building.

Mr. Ramos said funding for the project will come from various financial institutions, including those based in foreign countries.

He said P17.5 billion has already been obtained and the balance will be appropriated by next month.

The chief executive is confident that the program will succeed. The six main categories of the project are the so-called "multiplier enterprises" where one project or one job creates additional opportunities in the neighborhood for similar complimentary or supportive projects.

In Balayan, the president presided over the signing of an agreement among political opponents in the province. Among those who signed the covenant were former Vice President Salvador Laurel of the Nacionalista [Nationalist] Party; Batangas Gov. Vicente Mayo of the Nationalist People's Coalition; Rep. Hernani Perez, House minority leader, of the opposition Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino [Struggle of Filipino Democrats]; and Reps. Eduardo Ermita and Ralph Recto, both belonging to the House "Rainbow Coalition."

Mr. Ramos urged officials in the other provinces to emulate the lead taken by the Batangas officials who have decided to cross party lines and form a multiparty covenant seeking the success of the presidential employment program.

Mr. Ramos said politicians must now set aside their political interests so that they can effectively contribute to the general effort toward transforming the Philippines into a newly-industrialized country before the turn of the century.

Answering criticisms that his provincial sorties are mere junkets and do not contribute to the development of the rural areas, the president said his administration is now bringing the government to the people through innovative projects that directly benefit the citizenry.

Trade Gap 'Ballooned' in Jan-Oct 1993

BK2601055994 Quezon City MALAYA in English 22 Jan 94 p 11

[Text] The country's trade gap ballooned to $5.17 billion during the first 10 months of 1993, wider by $1.13 billion from 1992's comparative deficit of $3.85 billion.

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas [Central Bank of the Philippines] reported yesterday that the wider deficit was due to the faster growth of imports compared with exports. The country, however, was importing more capital goods and raw materials for re-export. For the month of October 1993, total merchandise exports reached $1,002 million, up 16.5 percent over the year-ago level of $860 million. This brought aggregate exports from January to October 1993 to rise by 12.8 percent to $9,121 million compared to the level for the same period last year.

The $1,034 million increase for the first 10 months can be traced primarily to the hike in shipments of manufactured goods, particularly electronics and electrical equipment and parts ($608 million); garments ($132 million); and, machinery and transport equipment ($72 million).

Semi-conductor devices remained the country's leading export product with earnings amounting to $904 million. Other leading exports include finished electrical and electronic machinery and parts manufactured from materials imported on consignment; other electronic integrated circuits and micro assemblies; consigned women's wear; and, consigned children's and infants' wear.

During the review month, total imports amounted to $1,647 million, 23.7 percent higher than the $1,331 million recorded a year earlier.

Imports for the 10-month period amounted to $14,291 million, up by 19.7 percent from the year-ago level of $11,939 million.

The upturn was attributed to the increase in arrivals of all major commodity groups except mineral fuels and lubricant. Imports of capital goods expanded by $1,108 million with power generating and specialized machines contributing the highest growth of $541 million, followed by telecommunication equipment and electrical machinery, aircraft, ships and boats, by $339 million and $183 million, respectively.

Raw materials and intermediate goods imports rose by $952 million on account of increased arrivals of materials and accessories for the manufacture of electronic equipment ($347 million), metal products ($173 million), and iron and steel ($137 million). Likewise, arrivals of consumer goods rose by $260 million attributed to higher demand for passenger cars and motorized cycle, and miscellaneous manufactures.

Petroleum crude maintained its position as the country's top leading import commodity notwithstanding the $183 million drop in its import value of $1,154 million. Other leading imports included dice on consignment basis [as published]; materials and accessories for the manufacture of other electrical machinery and equipment on consignment basis; parts of electronic integrated circuits and micro assemblies; and, fabrics for the manufacture of outer garments on consignment basis.

The country's merchandise trade balance in October 1993 resulted in a deficit of $645 million, $174 million higher than the level a year ago. Based on the cumulative levels for the 10-month period, the gap widened to $5,170 million or by $1,318 million from the $3,852 million in the previous year.

Firms Raided for Violating Copyright Law

BK2501115494 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 0930 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] The Criminal Investigation Service [CIS] has confiscated 26 sets of microcomputers and almost 1,000 diskettes during separate raids in Metro Manila. The raid was conducted by men under CIS Superintendent Raul Medina. The CIS is now preparing to file charges of violating the copyright law against Hyper Corporation of Makati, First Micro Trading Unit of Greenhills, and Maxicorp of Pasig.

Thailand

Khun Sa Said To Set Opium Production Record

BK2501012194 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 25 Jan 94 p 6

[Text] All Thai drug suppression units must prepare for hard work as opium production in the Golden Triangle under control of drug warlord Khun Sa reportedly hit a record of at least 3,500 tons at the end of last year, Pol Lt-Gen Kowit Phakdiphum, the former commissioner of the Narcotics Suppression Bureau warned yesterday.

Pol Lt-Gen Kowit, who has recently been promoted to assistant police chief, said that Khun Sa would try to refine the raw opium into heroin and traffic the illicit drug to markets abroad as soon as possible as he needed a large amount of money to buy weapons and food supplies to fight Burmese troops.

"Thailand would have to take the heavy burden of cracking down on drug traffickers to save the world from narcotics."

Pol Lt-Gen Kowit said Thai officials must increase cooperation with representatives of 14 countries in Asia, Europe and North America now working at their embassies on drug prevention and suppression campaigns.

Pol Lt-Gen Kowit yesterday bade farewell to his subordinates at the Narcotics Suppression Bureau as he was about to leave for the North this week to oversee the operations of Police Region 5 which covers Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Mae Hong Son, Lamphun, Lamphang, Payao, Nan and Phrae. His successor, Pol Lt-Gen Somchai Milindarangkun, would go on with a plan to jointly set up a hotline centre on narcotics suppression with China.

Pol Lt-Gen Kowit said he would join the delegation of Deputy Prime Minister Amnuay Wirawan to Rangoon on February 9 for the second meeting of Thailand, Laos and Burma on drug suppression. The first meeting was held in Bangkok in 1992.

Minister Denies Support for Drug Trafficking

BK2601011994 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 26 Jan 94 p 6

[Text] Defence Minister Wichit Sukmak said Thailand does not support drug trafficking and will cooperate with the international police in suppressing the trade in illegal narcotics.

The minister said if Khun Sa could stop producing heroin as he announced, the country's image would be indirectly improved, for Thailand has often been accused of being a drug trafficking route for the heroin produced by the drug warlord.

Thailand was in fact the first country in Southeast Asia to persuade hilltribes people to stop producing heroin, thanks to the initiative of His Majesty the King, noted Gen Wichit.

Meanwhile, Narcotics Suppression Bureau [NSB] Commissioner Somchai Milintharangkun announced an increase in the police personnel, technology, and rewards to combat drug dealers.

Pol Lt-Gen [Police Lieutenant General] Somchai also promised to take severe action against careless police who allow drug dealers to escape from captivity. Bad police must be ousted. NSB police might also be transferred because some are easily corrupted by drug dealers when offered money and property. He also had a plan to move drug suppression offices to a more well-protected area to prevent information on confidential cases from being leaked.

ROK Fighter Jet Sale Still 'Under Discussion'

BK2501072194 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 24 Feb 94

[Text] Regarding a news report that South Korea will sell F-5 fighter jets to Thailand, Air Force Assistant Commander Air Chief Marshal Samat Sotsathit said that the deal was still under discussion. He said that although this type of the fighter jet is no longer produced, the Thai Air Force is using it. There is no problem regarding spareparts because production of spare parts has not been discontinued.

Vietnam

U.S. 'Debunking' of Russian Documents Hailed

BK2601113494 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] A retired Vietnamese general at the center of American suspicion over prisoners of war on Tuesday welcomed the U.S. report debunking two controversial Soviet documents on the issue.

General Tran Van Quang, alleged author of remarks reported in one of the documents, said the study by U.S. Intellegency Agency [as heard] released in Washington on Monday backed the Vietnam's stand that the documents were fabrications. He said the verdict by the U.S. agency would help speed up normal relations and benefit both Vietnam and America.

'First Batch' of Refugees From Japan Arrives

BK2501063594 Hanoi VNA in English 0621 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 25—Two hundred and three Vietnamese nationals returning from a refugee camp in Japan arrived in Hai Phong yesterday.

They belong to the first batch of 263 returnees from Japan. Most of them are young people from Kien Thuy, Do Son town and Le Chan precinct of Hai Phong Port City. These returnees are not beneficiaries from the fund provided by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees because they illegally left the country after Sept. 27, 1991.

Agreement on Road, Port Use Signed With Laos

BK2201150494 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 20 Jan 94

[Text] In Vientiane recently, Mrs. Khampheng Phonsena, deputy chairman of the Lao State Commission for Planning and Cooperation, and Mr. Tran Khai, deputy chairman of the Vietnam's State Commission for Planning, signed a document on communications cooperation between the two countries.

According to this document, the two sides will contribute funds for the construction of Road No. 8 and the Nam Thom Bridge on Lao National Route No. 1, and to repair Roads No. 9, 12, 18, 42, and the Road No. 7 that connects Laos with the East Sea.

Vietnam continues to create favorable conditions for Laos to use the sea ports of Haiphong, Da Nang, and Cua Lo.

Further on Midterm National Party Conference

BK2501122194 Hanoi Television Network in Vietnamese 1215 GMT 24 Jan 94

[Text] As of today, 24 January 1994, the midterm national party conference had gone through five days of intensive and boisterous work with a high sense of reponsibility to the party and the people.

This conference is an important political event in the political life of our party and people. The conference is designed to review the actual situation to continue to step up the renovation process—a process that is being undertaken in a changing and complex world situation.

The conference vociferously debated the Seventh Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee's political report presented by Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi at the conference.

Following the sixth party congress, the seventh party congress [as heard] has, over the past few years, substantiated and further perfected the renovation policy through its political platform and its socioeconomic development strategy which chart the course for the renovation to be carried out in a more extensive, harmonious, and steadier fashion along the socialist path. However, the renovation process, which is something new to us, is carried out at a time when the world situation is developing in a complex manner and when there are many new arising problems to be resolved promptly.

Over the past few days, during their debates—either in group debates or collective debates—and during their refreshment breaks, the delegates enthusiastically discussed and unanimously agreed with those essential matters cited in the political report, ranging from the review of the implementation of the seventh party congress resolution to the summming up of the actual situation of the renovation process, and the determination of major policies and measures aimed at firmly defending the country under all circumstances to successfully implement the seventh party congress resolution.

The delegates unanimously noted the three major achievements scored by our country, the most important being the fact that we have been able to overcome by a very important step the state of socioeconomic crisis, continue to maintain and consolidate political stability, broaden foreign relations, improve our country's prestige and position in the world, and thereby create a favorable international environment for our national construction and defense.

Against a background of a complicatedly changing world and a domestic situation plagued with difficulties, what has been achieved by us attests to the correctness of the party's policy and the appropriateness of its steps. Our national revolution has been and is being carried out in the right direction along the path of consolidating national independence and building socialism—the path chosen by our Uncle Ho, our party, and our people.

These great achievements have generated new stature and strengths and new opportunities for us to gradually shift to a new stage of development where we can further accelerate our national industrialization and modernization. Besides these opportunities, the Vietnamese revolution is also facing new challenges, new deficiences, and new problems. Generally speaking, all the delegates unanimously agreed with various points summed up by the party Central Committee in its political report. These points are:

—Although having achieved some economic development, our country remains one of the world's poorest countries.

—Despite its faster pace of economic growth, there is the danger of being left further behind economically compared to nearby countries.

—While we want peace and development, hostile forces are resorting to various schemes and tricks aimed at realizing their peaceful evolution strategy. We must always heighten our vigilance against this.

—Our socioeconomic development, though guided along the renovation process, has given rise to many problems to be correctly dealt with if we are to keep our country from straying off the socialist path.

—Corruption and other social ills, which have not been dispelled, are causing serious losses economically and a drop in the people's confidence.

All these are challenges to be overcome on the road toward development. Though not too optimistic, all the delegates firmly believed in the success of the renovation process. This is because we have, over the years, drawn on many useful lessons from objective realities. These lessons call for firmly maintaining the socialist course during the renovation process, linking the persistence in principles and revolutionary strategy with the flexibility in tactics, and remaining sensitive to acquire new things. While regarding as necessary the carrying out of the renovation in a comprehensive and uniform fashion, we must adopt appropritate steps, forms, and methods. We must also maintain the party leadership and state management in carrying out the commodity-based multisectoral economic development. We must develop socialist democracy, discover and correctly resolve those problems newly arising in renovation process. We must pay attention to reviewing realities, constantly supplement and gradually perfect our theory about the path toward buidling socialism.

The delegates unanimously agreed that although the renovation is an unprecedentedly difficult process, we have boldly found a way out, bravely marched forward, and scored very important successes. The most basic and most decisive factors are that our party has held a ruling role, that we do not accept pluralism and a multiparty system, that we have upheld a sense of independence, sovereignty, and creativity, that we have adopted a policy and line in conformity with the pattern of activity and the realities of Vietnam and that we have been able to develop the integrated strengths of the all-people great solidarity bloc and to broaden our international relations.

With a high sense of responsibility, all the delegates, whatever their field of activity, have expressed their sympathy for and contributed their views to unfailingly achieving the orientations and tasks for the period ahead as outlined in the political report, which calls for spurring a change in the econonomic mechanism along the direction of industrialization and modernization, consistently implementing the multisectoral economic development policy, and creating a driving force and more favorable environment for various economic components and various forms of enterprises to develop quickly and to achieve high results. We must harmoniously build the market system under the state management along socialist direction.

The delegates contributed numerous views on the tasks of caring for, fostering, and developing the human factor as a driving force and a goal of the revolution. The most prominent issues discussed consist of achieving social justice, improving intellectual standards, ameliorating the society, and preserving and developing the identity of folk culture.

Fighting corruption—a present burning and pressing issue—was also given attention by the delegates who unanimously agreed that the fight against corruption must be carried out in a resolute and drastic fashion in our entire working apparatus covering various echelons and sectors from the central down to local levels.

Not only was the national security and defense issue given attention by delegates from the armed forces but it also received the views of almost all the participants who called for maintaining political stability, fighting the enemy's peaceful evolution strategy, and preventing social negativism.

Most of the delegates also paid attention to the party-buiding and mass motivation tasks, especially the task regarding cadre organization. Some believed that we must have a consistent cadre organization policy that calls for not only gathering and propagating the younger generation of officially-trained party cadres and members but also for rallying the generation of party cadres and members with good records and experiences. They said that not much has been done in the spreading of propaganda on the party, especially among the younger generation, and that theoretical studies, especially the study of the theory on socialist construction, has not met requirements for attractiveness and for ideological guidance and actions among society.

Many delegates also analyzed the role of grass-roots party organizations at the village and ward levels, especially those in the rural areas and in mountain regions and those belong to state-, state-private, and privately-run economic establishments. They stressed the need to establish order and discipline within party organizations, improve daily party activities, both in terms of format and contents, to increase leadership skills, militancy, and the ability to fulfill the duties of the entire party and of each party echelon.

Delegates noted those results obtained in mass motivation in the past and pointed out the need to continue to strengthen leadership and guidance in a more practical fashion for the activities of various mass organizations, regarding this as an important factor to contribute to increasing the militancy and leadership skills of the party. As clearly outlined in the political report delivered by Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi, lying ahead of us is a new stage with promising prospects and great challanges that must be definitely overcome by us, and with opportunities that must be fully exploited. All of our party, Army, and people must be of the same heart and minds and must be united as one, trying to struggle to bring the renovation forward so as to score even-greater successes.

After four days of debates held in the form of both group debates and collective debates, the CPV Central Committee's political report delivered by Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi, today, 25 January 1994, delegates to the midterm national party conference held group debates, discussing and exchanging views in preparation for a by-election of members to the Seventh Party Central Committee.

Tomorrow, 25 January, the conference will be in plenary session at the conference hall.

Central Committee Members Elected

BK2601023794 Hanoi VNA in English 1514 GMT 25 Jan 94

[All names as received]

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 25—The 6-day party's Midterm National Conference closed here this afternoon under the chairmanship of Vo Van Kiet, Politburo member of the party Central Committee.

During the morning session Dao Duy Tung, Politburo member, on behalf of the conference's Presidium summed up the delegates opinions on the political report presented by party General Secretary Do Muoi at the conference.

The conference also elected 20 more members to the party Central Committee. They are:

1. Dao Trong Lich, general
2. Phan Dien, head of the Office of the party Central Committee.
3. So Lay Tang, secretary of the party committee of Gia Lai Province.
4. Bui Quang Huy, secretary of the party committee of Tra Vinh Province.
5. Lu Van Dien, secretary of the party committee of Can Tho Province.
6. Ho Duc Viet, first secretary of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth
7. Le Mai, deputy foreign minister
8. Nguyen The Tri, general 2 [rank as received]
9. Dang Thanh Hoc, secretary of the party committee of Minh Hai Province.
10. Hoang Thua, secretary of the party committee of Ha Giang Province.
11. Truong Can Than, secretary of the party committee of An Giang Province.
12. Tran Van Vu, secretary of the party committee of Soc Trang Province.
13. Dinh Trung, secretary of the party committee of Binh Thuan Province.
14. Nguyen Phu Trong, editor in chief of the COMMUNIST REVIEW [TAP CHI CONG SAN].
15. Ha Manh Tri, head of the Law Commission of the National Assembly
16. Le Thanh Dao, head of the Supreme People's Inspectorate
17. To Xuan Toan, secretary of the party committee of Ninh Binh Province
18. Thai Phung Ne, minister of energy
19. Vo Van Cuong, executive member of the party committee of Ho Chi Minh City.
20. Hoang Van Nghien, director of Hanel Electronic Company

The youngest newly elected member is 47 years old.

Later, the delegates passed the full text of the conference's resolutions.

Do Muoi Addresses Closing Session

BK2601092994 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 25 Jan 94

["Text" of closing speech by Do Muoi, party general secretary, at the MidTerm National Party Conference in Hanoi on 25 January—read by announcer]

[Text] Dear party Central Committee advisers; Comrade Nguyen Huu Tho, president of the Vietnam Fatherland Front [VFF] Presidium; former members of previous Central Committee Political Bureaus; and conference delegates.

The Midterm National Party Conference [MNPC] accomplished its duty and achieved fine success after six days of urgent work with a high sense of responsibility to our revolutionary undertaking, the fatherland's destiny, and our national future. The delegates contributed their best to the success of the development of the democratic spirit in party activities. They expressed their agreement with the party Central Committee political report. They also took part in lively discussions and provided many important and correct opinions.

The delegates carefully selected qualified people to replenish the party Central Committee, which increased the strength of the leading party organ. This is the first time our party held a midterm national conference according to stipulations set forth in the party statutes.

Many new issues have arisen, including challenges, opportunities, difficulties, and advantages, in an international background and national situation of many changes. These issues have come up after only a little more than two years after the Seventh National Party Congress [SNPC]. They require the entire party's intelligence to evaluate the implementation of the SNPC resolution in the past, to review in one step our renovation cause since the Sixth National Party Congress, to analyze the current situation, to outline major policies and measures, and to replenish party cadres to the party leading organ. This will meet the current demands of our revolutionary stage and heighten the willpower and strengths of our entire party, Army, and people for the continuous advancement of our revolutionary cause and for the accomplishment of the goals, directions, and duties outlined by the SNPC.

The MNPC resolution concretizes and develops the spirit and content of the SNPC resolution in the new situation. We must quickly organize practical activities to disseminate and understand the resolution after this conference. Party committees at all levels must closely supervise the resolution's implementation together with the satisfactory organization of their midterm delegate meetings to accelerate control work, develop positive aspects, and quickly correct shortcomings and mistakes.

The government urgently must institutionalize the resolution content. Governments from the central to grassroots levels must introduce detailed plans to quickly execute the resolution. Fatherland fronts and mass organizations must engage deeply to motivate the public, to strengthen the national unity block, to develop their existing emulative movements, and to organize new movements in order to widely gather and motivate everybody to enthusiastically transform the SNPC goals and major MNPC duties into realities.

We must strive to build clean and strong party and state mechanisms in order to satisfactorily implement the SNPC and MNPC resolutions and to ensure a correct direction for development. We must also improve leadership capacity and management efficiency. Our party is the party of the workers' class and a loyal representative of the interests of the workers' class, laborers, and entire nation. Since its formation, our party always holds the national flag high and fights determinedly for the fatherland's independence and the people's freedom and happiness. The past 60 years of history prove that our party is a vanguard fighting force for the entire nation. Our party is resolute about accomplishing this important duty in the new stage. All party cadres and members must earnestly study to improve their knowledge, quality, and morality; fight against corruption, waste, and bureaucracy; and continue their sacrifice and struggle for the revolutionary undertaking, thus deserving to be considered the people's loyal servant as Uncle Ho used to teach us.

We must study Marxist-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh Thought and correctly apply and develop them in the new situation. We must preserve, inherit, and develop our national characteristics and quintessence. We also must study and selectively acquire mankind's achievements and other countries' experiences to correctly and creatively apply them to Vietnam's real situation. We must not copy dogmas. All dogmas from this side or the other side will cause damage to the national revolutionary cause.

The MNPC calls on the entire party, Army, and people to develop our ancestors' fine tradition in national construction and protection. We must heighten the willpower of independence, sovereignty, and self-reliance; exercise diligence; practice frugality; instigate honesty; and uphold righteousness for the construction and protection of the fatherland and the party. We must work for the development of our economy, culture, and society; and we must strengthen our national defense and security to protect the regime that our people built with so much effort and the blood and bones of many generations.

The MNPC calls for the increase of unity and unanimity to fully exploit opportunities; eliminate dangers; overcome challenges; proceed with the national industrialization and modernization; take our renovation cause to new heights and depths for the goals of a rich population, strong nation, and just and civilized society; and gradually and successfully build socialism.

On the new year of 1994 and on entering the Year of the Monkey, I wish party Central Committee advisers; Comrade Nguyen Huu Tho, president of the VFF Presidium; former members of previous Central Committee Political Bureaus; conference delegates; and all comrades good health and more contributions to our party and people's revolutionary undertaking.

Our MNPC hails comrades who, for health reasons, voluntarily resigned from the party Central Committee to create favorable conditions for the appointment of younger comrades to the party leading organ. It is hoped that they will continue to actively contribute their experience to the party and state's common tasks.

On behalf of the MNPC Presidium, I declare the Midterm National Party Conference closed.

NHAN DAN Praises Conference

BK2601061994 Hanoi VNA in English 0558 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 26—The successful Mid-Term National Conference of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] has defined premises for taking the country to a new stage of development, says the national daily NHAN DAN in an editorial today.

After six days' sitting, the paper continues, the conference discussed and approved the political report of the party Central Committee delivered by General Secretary Do Muoi. The report assesses the realities of the renovation process of the country, identifies the opportunities and challenges it is facing, and maps out goals and major tasks for the coming years with a view to successfully implementing of the resolutions of the seventh party congress.

Delegates to the conference reviewed the achievements recorded by the party and the entire people over the past years, in substantially overcoming the socio-economic crisis, continuing to maintain and consolidate the country's political stability, broadening external relations. All of this made a valuable contribution to heightening Vietnam's position and prestige in the world, creating favourable conditions for national construction and defence. These initial but very important achievements, the paper notes, proves that the renovation process initiated and guided by the CPV is correct and the resolutions of the 6th and 7th party congresses are being realized.

The paper also hails the conference for its serious work with high responsibility when it openly pointed to the weaknesses, shortcomings and other newly arising problems that should be immediately settled.

The paper goes on: "To take those opportunities and challenges, our party must do its best to meet the requirements of its tasks, to renew and consolidate the close relationship between the party and the people. We must guarantee political and ideological unity among the entire party, educate all party officials and members so that they thoroughly understand the viewpoints and policies of the party, heighten their awareness and enhance their determination to persist in the socialist path, creatively apply and develop Marxism- Leninism, Ho Chi Minh Thoughts and the intellectual quintessence of our time...."

Newspaper: KR Ordered To Kill Fisherman

BK2601155894 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 25 Jan 94

[Text] The newspaper CAMBODIA LIFE on 19 January quoted sources as saying that a Khmer Rouge [KR] general named Chhit Choeun or Mok, now on convalescence in the triborder area of Cambodia, Laos, and Thailand has ordered Khmer Rouge's 980th [as heard] Division headed by (Muol) to resume its intensified operations around the Tonle Sap lake area to kill fishermen of Vietnamese origin who are earning their living by fishing in the Tonle Sap lake.

KR's 'Terrorist Acts' Condemned

BK2601143894 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 26 Jan 94

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Khmer Rouge [KR] are reported to be planning a massacre of all fishermen of Vietnamese origin living in around the Tonle Sap lake area in Cambodia. Here is our radio's opinions:

The newspaper CAMBODIA LIFE on 19 January quoted sources as saying that Khmer Rouge General Chhit Choeun or Mok has ordered the Khmer Rouge's 998th Division to step up its operations around the Tonle Sap lake area to kill fishermen of Vietnamese origin.

The newspaper commented that the 998th Division comprises of young soldiers who are notorious for their barbarous acts.

This is not the first time the Khmer Rouge conducted terrorist acts against people of Vietnamese origin in Cambodia. The Khmer Rouge have never renounced their attempts to massacre these people, especially since 1993. On 10 March last year, the Khmer Rouge killed 46 people of Vietnamese origin in Chong Khneas village, Siem Reap provincial capital, near Tonle Sap lake. During the massacre, the Khmer Rouge resorted to barbarism in their killing of women, children, and old people.

Vietnamese residents living in Cambodia are under the threat every day and every hour. The Vietnamese Government and the world public have many times condemned the Khmer Rouge for such barbarous acts and called for appropriate measures to protect these people. However, until now, there have never been positive actions taken.

The newspaper CAMBODIA LIFE said the Khmer Rouge continue the policy of discrimination against Vietnamese nationals and the world community should take appropriate measures to check the barbarous hands of the Khmer Rouge.

2 Highland Airports To Be Reopened by Mid-Apr

BK2201152094 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 22 Jan 94

[Text] Two more domestic airports Hanoi-Dien Bien in Lai Chau Province, and Hanoi-Na San in Son La Province will be reopened by mid-April. More than 1 billion dong (roughly $100,000) have been spent in rebuilding the Dien Bien Airport, and about $25,000 will be needed for the ugrading of the Na San Airport.

Two More Domestic Airlines To Open Mid-Apr

BK2301092294 Hanoi VNA in English 0537 GMT 23 Jan 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 23—Two more domestic airways, Hanoi-Dien Bien (Lai Chau Province) and Hanoi-Na San (Son La Province), will be reopened by mid-April this year.

More than 1 billion dong (roughly USD 100,000) have been spent in rebuilding the Dien Bien Airport, supplying it with air traffic control equipment, and building an air services system.

To upgrade the Na San Airport will take about 250 million dong (roughly USD 25,000). And to keep regular arrivals at the airport will need a further 1.2 billion dong (approximately USD 120,000).

Operators will be Vietnam Airlines, Pacific Airlines and Vasco.

These two airports fell into disuse three to four years ago due to the lack of passengers and poor infrastructure.

Now growing demand for fast transport to serve tourism and business has prompted the Vietnam General Department of Civil Aviation to reopen these short flights between northern airports.

Nong Duc Manh Receives Bac Son Delegation

BK2501103594 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 22 Jan 94

[Text] On the afternoon of 22 January, Comrade Nong Duc Manh, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the National Assembly, received at the National Assembly Building a delegation of cadres in charge of village and city grass-roots establishments in Bac Son District, Lang Son Province.

Chairman Nong Duc Manh was briefed by the comrade head delegate on the socioeconomic situations in all villages in the district. Next, two delegates—one from the village that scores the best achievements and the other from the village that faces the most difficult problems—briefed him on the living conditions, economic growth, and party-building work at the grass-roots establishments under their charge.

Chairman Nong Duc Manh was very happy to learn about those changes for the better. He warmly commended grass-roots party organizations and administrative organs in Bac Son District for having upheld the traditions of a revolutionary base and scored encouraging economic achievements. The planting of fruit trees and industrial crops has helped with the production of commodity goods. Small-scale hydroelectric power plants are working fairly well. All those achievements have contributed to improving the living conditions of ethnic minority compatriots to an important degree.

Chairman Nong Duc Manh expressed his hope that grass-roots party committee echelons and administrative organs in Bac Son District would continue to develop their revolutionary traditions and direct the people in satisfactorily carrying out the renovation cause and in materializing the goals of making the people rich and the country powerful and of bringinging about justice and civilization in society.

Oil, Gas Sector's Achievements, Tasks Reviewed

BK2501115994 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 22 Jan 94

[Text] Last year, our country's oil and gas sector exploited 6.3 million tons of crude oil, performed a 5,815-meter deep exploratory drill, completed the drilling of 17 oil wells, and started building a gas pipeline from the Bach Ho Oil Well to the hinterland.

This year, efforts will be made to exploit 6.7 million tons of crude oil, complete the drilling of 29 oil wells, and put four new oil rigs into operation.

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